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# *Second Book of Azrael*



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GREAT WHITE BROTHERHOOD



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GREAT WHITE BROTHERHOOD



DeVORSS & Co., Publishers  
4900 EAGLE ROCK BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90041

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## INTRODUCTION

THE GREAT WHITE LODGE is on a plane of being above the Earth. Within that Lodge are the Initiates—the bearers of the Light—Souls who from ages past have journeyed along the path of spiritual evolution. Within the Lodge on High are the risen Souls of men and women opened to the Light who live lives of utmost purity. These Souls have grown in God-consciousness and give love and service to their brethren on Earth and in many Realms.

The Grand Master of the Lodge is He who is the Son of the Father-Mother God, and whose love, so gentle and yet so powerful, has proven the salvation of human life—our Lord Jesus Christ.

Throughout the ages there has always been the Great Lodge of the White Light and Teachers from this Lodge have gone forth to instruct mankind, and to form other Lodges of the White Light. We, with each of you who become linked to this Lodge, are working to raise the consciousness of those who are unconscious of the great potentialities that lie within themselves for service and love.

It is a real thing, my brethren, this Light of the Spirit. We bid you pray always for the coming of this Light in ever greater measure so that mankind shall no longer be held in bondage to the Lodge of Darkness, but that *all* may be freed from error and find perfect happiness in this all-enfolding love and truth.

In the younger Lodges of the Brotherhood, wherever they may be in the world, the Brethren not only *wait* but they watch for the ONE to come. Great spiritual forces are gathered there, and the Brotherhood in the Higher Realms use the soul-substance contributed by those Brethren who in love and service wait for their Lord.

The Angelic Ones cooperate with men to protect the three-fold rays of Power, Love and Wisdom which inspire their human brethren with whom they make contact in the Father's Service.

To enable you to receive from those Great Ones who desire to give you their loving help along your path of Earth life, *it is necessary to preserve tranquility and perfect serenity of the Soul*. You must endeavor to pass quietly and harmoniously on your way and so reflect truth by your daily acts. Then the steady vision of the Initiate shall indeed be yours.

Sometimes the question is asked: "Who is Azrael? What is his nationality?" My answer, beloved brethren, is this:

I have no nationality now in that I belong to no one country, as during my many Earth incarnations I have worn the physical garment of all nations. I have been white, black, yellow, and finally the brown of India, where I dwelt in the Himalaya Mountains in my last Earth life. In these towering mountains is the home of the Ancient Wisdom, and there the last and greatest Earth lessons are manifested in the heart, and there the final Initiations take place.

In my name—*Azrael*—given me by the Highest, I am represented as the Angel of Immortality pointing the way for the Soul in its journey onward to the Heaven World where it seeks rest and refreshment to prepare, if necessary, for a return once more to a realm of physical life. Earth is the only sphere where certain necessary lessons *can* be learned. When those lessons are finally learned the Soul can journey to other realms and planets in the Father's vast Universe.

We of the Great White Brotherhood have long finished with Earth lives, but in our chosen work we are very closely linked with each of you as we surround the Earth during these days of unrest, and out of your *constructive*

thoughts we use the material for your own help and guidance.

You can aid us in our work of preparation for the Return of the World Teacher by sending forth consciously the Light of Peace from your heart and mind and life into the whole world. Visualize this Light going forth as a great Cross of Light within a Circle—a vast aura of Light shining in all its radiance and beauty and power throughout the Universe.

AZRAEL

*The source of prayer is human power set in motion by the Divine will. Whether you pray or abstain from prayer depends upon your own volition; but when you pray you bring into action — perhaps quite unconsciously — a power dwelling within you which is more than human.*

*Azrael.*

## I

### REINCARNATION, KARMA AND REMISSION OF SINS

**I**N this present age it is the will of the Wise Ones that memory of the past shall stir in the hearts and minds of many, that recollection may come through a word dropped which may be the key to unlock the door of memory.

Although to speak of these mysteries is absorbing and interesting, always remember, my dear ones, at all times, never to lose sight of simplicity. Remember also that at the beginning of your creation you lay in the heart of the Father. *All truth lies in that one simple thought.* In the beginning was God, or God's Mind, God's Thought, or God's Word. He created Light. As you departed on your path of evolution from the Heart of God and found you possessed free will you have used that free will in a way which caused you suffering, and you fell by the wayside, into the mire, but nevertheless you have always maintained contact with the Heart.

If you would progress to the mysteries of the Cosmos of Life your way lies through contemplation, meditation, realization of the still, small voice, the God within you. All the wonderful mysteries of Mu, Atlantis, Persia, Egypt, India, China, and all such Soul experiences are still within your hearts. This is why you must learn to be still and thus free your memory to function in the past.

Do you think in your free will you can control your destiny? You can control your future but not your past. You control your future because as you think and act today so you create your future. Your Soul will decide whether to respond to the highest or otherwise. If the

Soul gives way to the lowest it will create for itself, through the Law of sowing and reaping, a karma which one day must be paid for; thus the Soul creates its future. Remember that past memories in the Soul will sometimes prove so strong, so deep — created by definitely good karma — that the Soul will respond purely and truly to the higher Self, the voice of conscience. This is the true explanation of sudden impulses and urges.

“Jesus breathed on them.” In other words, He instilled in the Disciples spiritual light, life, truth. He caused them to absorb from Him the magic of divine love. This divine love in any Soul gives that Soul power to remit sins of karmic debts.

You all know and understand the law of karma which governs human life: If you retain vengeance against one who has injured you, you are clinging to that brother's sin. It remains a debt through the ages because (like a ball) the debt travels to and fro between you. If another person injures you and you are angry, unconsciously you hold vengeance in your Soul. You may forget it in this life but it is still held. You reincarnate. You meet that Soul. You pay back that debt—you injure that Soul because in a past incarnation it once injured you. This is how the karmic law works — backwards and forwards — backwards and forwards. I hit you — you hit me — so it goes on, perhaps through thousands of lives. And whilst that continues the Soul is bound. The only way by which this sin can be remitted or wiped out is for one of these two Souls, instead of harboring vengeance, to forgive. And thus divine love comes into action to remit the sin or the debt.

We find that the Master Jesus was thus able to look into the heart of a man and see the debts he owed and the debts owing to him. To one person after another did He offer an opportunity to wipe out their karma. He drew the karma of Judas to Himself. Although Judas injured Jesus, He forgave him and the last words uttered by Jesus on the cross were “Father, forgive them, for they

know not what they do." This is the inner secret of the remission of sins. "Jesus breathed" — the Christ spirit, the Christ light, instilled divine love in the heart, which caused the recipient of this love to forgive his brother's karmic debts to him.

Only thus does the Christ spirit cleanse the Soul of sin — by a spiritual law of life. We who come to give this teaching speak with authority because we tell you only of profound spiritual law, which is truth. This should be absorbed, not intellectually, but into the soul and heart, so that Man spontaneously and lovingly forgives his brother no matter what he has done. Then only will he know a peace which passeth all understanding.

The Soul must resign everything to the law of God. God is justice. Do you think that any one of those who, in war or peace time, have sinned against their brotherman by perpetrating great cruelties, can escape divine justice? They cannot. But it is the Will of God that Man hold no bitterness but forgive freely. As the result of sin, however, the sinner must suffer; no earthly authority can save him from his just due. This is the Ancient Wisdom, the Cosmic Law. So soon as mankind can look to Divine Law to govern the nations, peace and tranquility will come. Then will "the Will of God be done upon Earth as it is done in Heaven".

Beloved, we would give a few thoughts in our message upon which you can meditate with increasing understanding. In every human life there comes a time when the sorrows and sufferings of dear ones bring mental anguish and the desire to carry those burdens, which seem so heavy, upon one's own shoulders. We would say to each of you, never seek to carry the burdens of another, because it is a great Cosmic Law that each one must bear his own burden. This may seem to contradict the teachings of the Master Jesus, but when He said, "Bear ye one another's burdens", He did not refer to the material ones, but to the spiritual burdens which can be shared and even carried for a time in prayer.

You can give your love and your compassion and your true spiritual help, but do not allow yourselves to become involved in the material chaos of another's difficulties, because in so doing you would limit in very truth *your* service to your Eternal Father. Remember that each Soul returns to incarnation for a purpose, to learn certain lessons and to assimilate great truths which may have been neglected or ignored in a previous physical life. *You* do not know what a Soul needs or the difficulties it must endure so that it may receive more light, more understanding in its journey towards the Ultimate. Do not, therefore, be fearful about loved ones and their problems, because all will be well with them no matter what their difficulties or their sorrows may be.

Mistakes are made by *all* mankind, but it is by mistakes and errors that great lessons may be learned. If you feel that injury or injustice has been done to you and you are bitterly hurt, remember that the *real* you remains unaffected. There is no real injustice in life. You are each working through your own karma and reaping what you have sown in the past; or it may be that you are being given an opportunity for new and greater spiritual upliftment by sending forth love as a radiant flame, thus overcoming criticism and misunderstandings and bringing serenity and harmony in exchange.

Sow a seed and reap accordingly. Sow a habit and reap a character. Is not this the working out of karma which enables you, my brethren, to understand yourself and also your circumstances? Reincarnation and karma go hand in hand; every thought and act will in time bring its own true result. You cannot escape the result of your own actions, even by physical death, as many think.

There is, however, another aspect. Your experience may not result from action or from inaction, but through neglect of opportunity so that suffering and disappointment follow. Once the Soul knows and understands this, it will accept every lesson with humility and not question the *why* or *wherefore*. Then it will be seen by the quality

of consciousness it has gained whether the debt has been repaid or whether the Soul has gained the opportunity to expand.

Sorrow and suffering bring the opportunity to learn lessons of patience, of humility, and an understanding of the principles of life which will bring an inward peace and happiness deep within the Soul through perfect faith and trust in God's wise laws which govern this world of men, beloved, and control your own life journey. You accumulate karma and you will eventually return to some sphere of existence to repay those debts. There are living on Earth today, however, certain pure Souls who lead lives of selflessness, who have given up all earthly desires and joys in search for the higher truths of the Spirit, and who are dedicated to love and service. They have overcome all that applies to the self — which is so difficult a state to attain — and are content to live in the quiet ways, in the humble places. Their voices are not heard in the clamor of the crowd nor in the glamor of success but their influence is felt wherever they are. These are the *Teachers*, because they shed the radiance of the perfect life and they teach by their example where words are not needed. They will not have to return to this Earth planet but will go to a higher state of being where they will still be servers at the Father's Altar, and where they will continue to render to Him love and service.

We again refer to that which to so many is a controversial subject, namely: *reincarnation*. We know that many for various reasons cannot accept this truth (for truth we assert it most definitely is); but there are also others who recognize reincarnation as a representation of that justice which gives to the Soul new opportunities every time it returns to physical life. But remember, beloved, we have always stressed the fact that this planet is NOT the only inhabited one in God's great Universes, and there are higher realms of matter to which the Soul can go in its upward journey to its eventual home, above and beyond any physical or mental planes of existence.

Each time the Soul returns it is given in physical life the opportunity for growth in cosmic consciousness. It is similar to a tiny light which with expanding efforts shines ever brighter and stronger — “a light which shineth in the darkness” of the material world. The object of your lives on this Earth, my brethren, is for you to manifest the true Light of God through the darkness of materialism. Reincarnation is the periodic descent of the Soul to labor in this or some other world. All creation is governed by the supreme principles of love and wisdom.

After it has lived for a span, the Soul withdraws from all earthly activity to rejoin its true Self. It returns for refreshment, for the Soul’s true home is in the heaven world. You may ask, “Why must the Soul reincarnate?” To quicken the Soul’s indwelling light in matter so that the raising of that Soul from darkness into light can take place. This is the Truth which is, always has been, and always will be.

The question naturally arises: “Why can we not then remember our past lives?” Because, my dear ones, memory is stored in your higher Self; but, as your Souls develop, the cosmic memory becomes awakened. There are certain people who are in some degree conscious of their past lives and they can recognize *why* they are placed in certain conditions, even though these may be adversity, sorrow, or other afflictions. They can then accept all that comes in the assurance that thus they can create better opportunities for the future. But always it is necessary to remember that “Whatsoever a man soweth that will he surely reap.” This is the law and nothing can alter it. It must not be assumed, however, that this law operates only after physical death. You may reap your karma in the same life that you planted its seed, though not always. Each Soul — usually after many, many Earth lives — must in the end receive divine illumination, which must be *earned*. This can only come through human effort, and true spiritual aspiration. The Soul receives many opportunities to attain divine illumination. In each Earth

life there are tests — some greater than others — according to the Soul growth and capacity to meet and overcome them; but there are tests included in nearly every detail of daily life.

We draw near with love towards you, our beloved brethren, when we see the difficulties which so many experience in acceptance of these tests which come in subtle and often unexpected ways. We have trodden the same path you tread and we have had the same tests throughout our own Earth lives. We are thus able to understand all that you experience on each plane of being. To some, there are the snares of the flesh to overcome — purity of mind and body to attain. The body being the earthly temple of the Soul, it is essential for every child of God to attain purity. To others there is a desire to excel in intellectual stature, causing a feeling of superiority over those less mentally endowed; and when this arises it may bring arrogance and self-righteousness. This must be overcome or the Soul becomes hampered and limited in its capacity to progress onward and upward.

We feel that for many the greatest test is on the spiritual plane, because here there are opportunities for glorification of the *self*, and for assuming spiritual knowledge and authority which can come from the imagination where there are no firm roots upon which to build reality and truth.

During every Earth-life tests come which are opportunities for progress and initiation. These are your reactions to the events of your daily lives, to life in general, and to your love for those around you, and above all in your ability to direct and control your life by calling upon the love, power and wisdom of God — your Father, your Creator.

Another great stumbling block is the attainment of humility — true humility — in the assurance that only God is great. You are nothing; all the good you have accomplished in your lives comes from Him. The attainment of sainthood can only come through that humble

spirit which has received divine illumination whereby it seeks to express God qualities in every aspect of daily life.

We would speak a few words here concerning heredity as relating to karma. A man is born into a certain nation, a certain family, into a certain environment best suited to the karma he has engendered by his past, and which is now ready for dispersal in the incarnation he is now beginning; and there is no antagonism between the law of heredity and the law of karma. By birth into a particular family the physical body shares in the characteristics of that family line. There may be, in fact usually is, a family likeness in other matters, both mental and moral, but these are not inherited. They may merely indicate a certain similarity in the karmas of the family group. Always remember, "Like attracts like."

You may find in a family group one who is definitely "alien", utterly inharmonious and apart amongst his own kith and kin. You will remark upon this fact with wonderment as to *how* this could be. Karma explains this problem. It is his own personal karma which indicates he shall be born into an unsympathetic family and into an unsuitable environment. His youthful years may be spent in discord, in constant misunderstanding and daily struggle. That is this man's handicap, but like every handicap it is a source of strength if used aright, and of weakness and frustration if used otherwise.

Our Father's Will for all His great human family is perfection — perfection of life on every plane. But this must be sought, and the seeking may be slow and difficult; therefore, to attain another life on Earth or perhaps on another planet is to have the opportunity to work out the effect of acts of wrong-doing committed in a previous life.

*There is no rebirth against your own wish, however,* for there is always free will, which is God's greatest gift to man. But I have never known a Soul to come up to this plane to which I must come to speak to you who does not eventually feel the need of another life experience.

And when this need is sensed, of its own free will, with no coercion from anyone, the Soul descends to the realm of matter once more. Therefore, do not be worried or perturbed at the thought of rebirth, my dear ones. It will not come until you yourselves are ready for it. And always remember that you can lessen the necessity for rebirths by your present life, by your attitudes to life and to your brother man in *this* journey, in *this* rebirth, in *this* incarnation.

Again I say: Beloved, be kind to those around you; thus you will transmute and in a way wipe out those debts that for many incarnations you have gathered up against yourselves. Then you can go on your way rejoicing in the fact that you have helped others and that you can look above into God's boundless blue; then you can pass on your way in tranquility and peace, with the flowers, with the trees, with the sunlight, in the evening with the twilight, and in the night with the star-spangled heavens. Then you can share with others that peace which is within your own hearts, so that harmony may also reign in the hearts of your fellow pilgrims passing along the way of life.

Do not look back ever, because there is no use in looking back. Look forward always, and take every lesson as it comes; learn it with a smiling face, regarding it as, "Once learned, always learned". Realize that this is the Law of Opportunity in operation for you.

Unless each one studies and strives for, and in the end fully understands this great truth of reincarnation, it is impossible for him to understand the purpose of life. Without it there is no continuity; the process of life comes to an end. One short life with little or nothing accomplished seems hardly worth while, hardly worth the pain and trouble.

When the soul is able to see its long, long journey leading to the evergrowing love and union with true friends of the spirit, life becomes enriched. Sorrows do not remain when your vision clears, beloved. Sorrow is a pass-

ing thing. The Soul moves forward to greater and more glorious experience. It is able then to understand happiness. It is able to feel the abounding love of the Eternal Father.

The gifts of love are His gifts to each soul. The light is within each one and must shine forth when darkness no longer exists. Then, beloved, you are back again in the Heart of the Sun, the Source from which you set forth upon the journey destined to develop the God qualities entrusted to you from the very commencement of your Earth life.

Meditate upon what we have said. May your heart receive the message we have given.



*ETERNAL SPIRIT OF LOVE which is Light: May Thy children rise above any fear of the future even though it is disturbed and obscure. May they have no fear of the unknown, not even of death, which is but a step forward into a fuller sphere of existence and of Reality. May each one surrender to Thy Will, oh, Father — to the light and beauty of Thy Spirit. We know that in this way each one will receive a great outpouring from the Beloved Son which will forever bless that one.*

*We know there is in each human heart a feeling of love, though this may be stifled for a long time beneath an earthly veneer through lives of selfishness and even cruelty. We know that when love finally comes, there will come also the at-one-ment with Thee, our Source of Inspiration, and the knowledge that this may be obtained in meditation and prayer.*

*We pray that all our brethren may recognize Thine Infinite Power and yield to it, that they may then enter the Temple of Light. Amen.*

## II

### UNIVERSAL LAW OF LOVE IN ACTION

**A**N INVISIBLE FORCE governs the winds, the tides, the incoming and outgoing of the seasons, the birth of flowers, immense growth of the forests, and the mating of the birds; the glorious sunlight and the myriads of twinkling stars. A wide, understanding Beneficence embraces all creation. A vast eternal pity exists for all sorrow, all sin. God, the Fountain Head of Absolute Perfection, is no remorseless, capricious Being. To Him all life is equal, from the smallest of His creations to the greatest. For in and around everything He has a portion of His own most perfect existence. HE IS ABSOLUTE LOVE and therefore can do no less than love all His works. Love, to be perfect, must contain all the elements of compassion, forgiveness, and forbearance.

You, my beloved ones, would not refuse to deny yourselves for the sake of a dear child or a friend. Shall not, therefore, Infinite Love sacrifice Itself even to as immense an humility as its greatness is immeasurable?

Have no doubts, my dear ones. Doubt is the destroyer of beauty, is poison in the cup of life — a curse which mankind brings upon himself. Believe in everything glorious and miraculous. The utmost reach of your faith can with difficulty grasp the majesty of the reality and perfection you can see, desire or even imagine. Guide yourselves by the spiritual instinct that is within each one of you, which tells you that with God all things are possible, save that He cannot destroy Himself nor lessen by one spark the ever-widening circle of His own productive Intelligence. From all eternity God, the Supreme Spirit of Light, has existed and will continue to exist. HE IS

PURE LOVE, and the power and capacity of loving points to the existence of things to be loved. This is the secret of Creation.

This great truth dawned upon the minds of the sages of old when they wrote: "Darkness was upon the face of the waters. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, and God said, 'Let there be light!' and there was light." Beloved, take heed and foster thine own Soul, and know that nothing can hinder the immortal Soul within each one from taking the form imposed upon it by your wills. Through love and faith it can become an angel and perform wonders even while it inhabits a body of flesh.

"Love your neighbor as yourself" is an important commandment. So many love unwisely and lose their sense of proportion. In eagerness to love they allow their emotions to upset the balance of *good*. Remember always: your neighbor, who is your brother pilgrim, also is traveling toward perfected manhood, the Christ-Man — toward becoming a Son of God. Thus he needs to learn. In your emotional eagerness to love much, be careful not to rob your brother of his lessons and thus delay his progress onward.

Love has a fragrance; the vibrations of Love send forth a fragrant essence not inhaled by the physical senses only, but through the etheric sense as well. This same fragrance passes through all manifestations and is received and used on the plane of pure Divine Spirit. There is no separation in Love. There is neither condemnation nor irritation; but there is a power and joy, and even ecstasy. God is all. You know no other God but Him, the one real God which is in all — *is* all. Have patience, my beloved. Have faith and trust, and know that all your human problems will be worked out through Love — through God who is Love.

Meditate on this Love — God, and in so doing identify yourselves with all Creation, with the joys and the suffering of those around you, with all the nature world —

and your eyes will be opened. Within, *within*, my beloved, know thyself! This is the great secret of life. Those who live only a material life — how starved they must be! Whatsoever their hands do, if they do not contact the Spirit (or Voice of God) in the quiet of their own souls, they cannot dwell in the Life More Abundant. God has given to His children the gift of Love, the wisdom of the heart — the true Spirit of Christ.

The qualities of character which the present situation on your Earth needs are admittedly spiritual. The virtues which have always been identified — not indeed exclusively, but supremely — with those who are disciples of Christ, are faith, hope and love. To these I would add the spirit of *cooperation* which is a practical expression of love; for to love God is to cooperate willingly with His purposes, and to love your neighbor, my dear ones, is to have true fellowship with Him. Mankind is learning afresh today how essential cooperation is, whether in science or economics; in war as in peace. If to this new recognition can be added the further conviction of the vital necessity of *Man's cooperation with God*, a way will have been made for God's creative power to flow unhindered into human life.

If you study the teachings of Jesus in your New Testament carefully you will understand that God's love is meant for all and does for all. So, far from being a gentle negative influence, the direction of Divine Love towards your souls is the releasing of a tremendous and dynamic force. So, far from bringing you a feeling of security and comfort, its *first effect* may be to make you restless and dissatisfied. For the intense energy of our Father's Love, my beloved, is set in motion with a single, definite aim — to transform character. Love is so to change Man that he becomes a new being; his whole attitude, his entire set of values, must be altered until he is brought into intimate relationship with our Father God.

The first stage of this change is to fill him, not with peace but with discontent as he realizes the gulf between

what he is and what he ought to be. Only when Divine Love has done its work of transformation will the peace of God possess both heart and mind.

The primary purpose of this Divine Love, my beloved, is not to make you comfortable; rather, it is to make you good — to change you by its compelling force until your minds are in tune with the mind of our Father, and then will His peace possess your souls.

No political system of defense or otherwise against hideous weapons of destruction can permanently secure immunity from their use by those who are indifferent to their fatal and terrible consequences. The threat of unmoralized material force can be met and mastered only by spiritual power. So, far from being irrelevant to the present world situation, religion — or some spiritual faith and understanding — alone holds the key to deliverance from the prospect of human self-destruction. Man was so created that he violates the actual laws of his being when he attempts to settle down in self-dependent estrangement from his Eternal Father. His choice in this modern crisis lies between the thoroughgoing change of mind and heart — which, in your New Testament, my beloved, is described as "reconciliation with God," — or self doom (personality-ego doom) even to annihilation.

Your Christian faith, my brethren, refutes the widely held belief that the supremacy of nonmoral force is the dominant fact in the universe and of individual human life. Against this it sets the Kingdom, the rule and realm of the Eternal Father, Who is Love, Self-giving in service and sacrifice.

The beloved Master's rule of life is Love of God first, the re-giving of God-Love within ourselves back to Him — that It might again express Him by flowing outward to us, to all Creation. The perpetual movement, or expression, of all life is one of ebb and flow, giving and re-giving unceasingly of the essence of life itself: Love.

To some extent it seems the two great commandments have been permitted to fall apart in the minds of men.

Religion has come to be regarded as a private affair between a man and his God; whereas love of neighbor has been treated as the substantial duty of Man possible of fulfillment *apart* from love of God. Men of Earth are inclined to overlook this Truth: God is All; therefore God is every created thing. All that you see, as well as all of the invisible realms, is God Himself, in varied forms of manifestation. Therefore, *you love God by loving Him in each of His manifested forms, particularly in your neighbor.* The way of achieving a so-called higher form of loving, of feeling closer to the inmost part of God, is through the highways and byways of experiencing Love toward your fellowmen and all other forms of Life. In the earnest desire to love thy neighbor as a living part of thyself and of all of God, lies the magic key to peace and awareness of the Voice Within.

The supreme search of your Earth lives, my beloved, is not for personal happiness, but there is something lacking which is essential to true living in a life in which happiness and love toward your neighbor are almost unknown, and there is little to commend any faith which does not contribute to it. For the Initiate on the Christ Path to give way to despair, or to allow his spirit to be crushed by the burden of the world's sufferings, allowing it to rob him of happiness, serenity and love, is to miss one of the greatest gifts of God's Spirit.

Much more than the outward circumstances, it is the inner conflicts of the Soul which destroy peace and harmony in the daily lives of our brethren on Earth. Jesus exhorted His Disciples to "be of good cheer," at the same time warning them that they would have tribulations. To follow the example of Jesus is to drink deeply of His Spirit; to meditate in the secrecy of your own chamber upon the principles He set before men and demonstrated for their further understanding; to strive to reinterpret His teachings in terms relevant to the existing situation, and so to serve your Father God with the mind, as well as with the heart and Soul.

But the worship of Christ, who is for the Christian Initiate the ultimate revelation of God, must never be made a substitute for what is doubtless the harder task of following Him — harder because it is the supreme test of the sincerity of your worship.

The teachings of the beloved Master Jesus both restore and transform men's natural optimism by overcoming the enslaving forces that produce pessimism. Enduring freedom from all want and fear, and all other kinds of bondage, is attainable only through the liberation of men's souls, by the power of God's Love, from the inward stranglehold of evil — the liberation which Jesus came into the world to teach.

To say with St. John that God is Love (or Charity) is not merely to mention one of His attributes, but designates what God is in the minds of Christians. It is thus that He is known to Man through Christ and the influence of Christ in human life. "I am all things to all men." Your Father God is known and worshipped, beloved brethren, as one who identifies Himself with each individual need, "who for us men and our salvation came down from Heaven and was made man." The love of each follower of Jesus the Christ for his brother-man transcends all ties of natural affection. It is their response to the Charity, the Love of God. "We love because He first loved us." Universal Law requires that this Love be returned, otherwise we are out of harmony, off balance, and we suffer the consequences.

Your love for God, my brethren, is not an emotion. It is a willing and glad acceptance of His supremacy, a desire to live in harmony with His laws, your response to the divine initiative. Your love for God is verified and revealed in your love for your neighbor, and to love our fellowman is to seek to discover an antidote to that crippling fear which is the most fruitful source of antagonism and hatred. Wars have provided many illustrations of the truth that love casts out fear — or rather, transcends it in acts of courage and of sacrifice. But in the normal

day-to-day relationships it also reveals its benign power to overcome fear, for it expresses itself in patience, in returning good for evil, and in the willingness to trust another's word as long as there is a remote possibility of that word being honored. All of these virtues of Love have the power to neutralize fear — to transmute fear into Love. So, to love God is to serve Him with heart and mind by seeking to serve your fellow-man by working for his highest good in your minds, hearts, and actions — being willing to make sacrifices on his behalf where sacrifices are indicated.

Some of you may be asking, "How can I possibly love — (naming him or her)? I now mentally understand the law behind Jesus's simply stated admonition to love my enemies, to turn the other cheek, to do good unto them that despitefully use me. I acknowledge that every man must eventually fulfill this law, but at present I know myself to be incapable of such lovingness, particularly toward the one I am thinking of; in fact, I do not feel a desire to love some people nor some of the other forms of life. Am I then doomed?"

No, my brethren, you are not doomed. The beloved Master Jesus knew there were many newly awakened souls who were in this state, so He related the instance of such a one. You will recall the man who approached Him with this problem and cried out. "I want to believe; help Thou my unbelief!" He wanted to be able to begin — to be able to believe, to love, to be able to want to love and change his inner state.

There is no depth within all Creation to which God does not descend. You have but to "desire to desire-to-love" and if that desire be from the core of the heart, the mind and the soul, immediately help surrounds you — the Grace of the inner Christ fills you, fortifies you with strength and courage, and guides you through the narrow gate. Sincerity of desire works miracles at any level of our evolution.

All warmth, as you conceive it, originates from the same source — the physical sun. Yet there is a Spiritual Sun, as well as the physical, for behind every physical form is the spirit which brings the form into being, and that spirit is a part of God, our Father. Without the invisible, the Spiritual Sun, there would be no visible one, nor light nor warmth. And this spirit behind the sun is identical with the spirit in you which you call Love.

Love is the fundamental, the first cause of all life. The attributes of Love are light, heat and life. Love alone gives life. All that has survived in art, music, literature and religion is that which has been conceived in a state of Love and thereby filled with human and divine Love. All else disintegrates and disappears.

Harmony in your daily life is Nature's first law and is the foundation of life's working plan. The songs of the universe, sung in perfect harmony, are the inspiration of the seers on the spiritual heights of being. The seers are the people of Earth who have overcome the flesh — as expressed on the lower planes of life — and who now serve on the three higher planes with no thought of self.

The three higher planes of life's expression are: *Inspiration, Faith, and Universal Love*. Love is eternal and moves under the law of perfect rhythm, and where love dwells there is no separation, no differentiation. Love is the universal cohesive power, the force of transmutation which changes discord into harmony and heals wounds caused by ignorance.

In this crisis upon the Earth, my brethren, it is necessary to keep calm and collected, and not to be anxious and fearful at the many rumors which fill your press and which you hear from the lips of many you meet day by day. The great Cosmic Plan is being worked out, a New Age is dawning on your Earth, and a change will come into the hearts and lives of God's great human family. Man will turn to the spiritual and leave the material world, and will be filled with a selfless love, compassion,

tolerance, and understanding of the needs of all his brethren. This will be the fundamental teaching of the New Age, beloved brethren — the teaching of John the Beloved who sat at the feet of the Master Jesus, and who, in the fourth Gospel, records the principles of your Christian Faith — “This is my commandment: That ye love one another as I have loved you,” as Jesus taught in all His ministry on Earth.

Always remember that all mankind is one; that you cannot hurt a nation nor yet a single unit of that nation without receiving the self-same injury yourself. Realize that life is ONE and live in that essential truth. There is but one Self and each of you is but a different expression of It. Throughout all the great diversities of species and of form there is but one all-pervading Life. When you are able, beloved brethren, to live in the light of purity, beauty, and the recognition of the one Life alone, then will sorrow and suffering disappear from your Earth; your homeward journey commences, and the end of the long pilgrimage is at last in sight.

May I caution you again, my brethren: Whatever the future may bring individually or nationally, never allow depression to sit beside you. Depression is negative and therefore should always be spurned. Hope is positive and vibrant. *Depression opens the door to enemy forces* — the forces of disintegration — and is therefore dangerous. It breeds fear — the antithesis of Love and Man's greatest foe. Refuse to accept depression and call upon the Love of God to fill the void. There is no such thing as failure to the one who keeps always the good, the positive attitude toward life.

Remember, creation is ever moving, ever forming according to your own vision of it. Therefore, your eye must be true, and sensitive to the etheric flow of love, for love is the one uniting power joining together soul, mind and body. Love is the cohesive force of the universe. You must always return to the clear, open vision and renew the eyes in love — undying, limitless love —

realizing it as the one power pervading your lives. Begin now, my beloved brethren, and build a structure to your Higher Selves. The Father will provide the material you need; the workman waits on the Soul's vision. Build love, build faith, build God into that structure, and it will stand forever and be a beacon light when everything else fades into oblivion. Never allow false thoughts to enter into your minds. Never feel that a person or a situation is difficult, because in this way you raise an obstacle calling for offensive action. Let all power rest in God. Regard all obstacles as merely stones to be cast into the ocean of life. See power and glory shining where obstacles formerly lodged in your minds.

There is another barrier in the paths of our Earth brethren which thwarts progress, and that is: You try to visualize God's power and plan how He shall work for you. In your prayers you tell God what to do. You cannot ask success for yourself or another, because success follows the Will of God; it follows Life and Love and Enlightenment. Let go! Trust God in all that you do and in all that comes to you; open your hearts and minds to receive wealth of life, of love, and of knowledge. When you ask God for help, *know* that it is already given.

Do not make plans for yourselves. Continue in faith, and live serenely and quietly. Faith begets love and also obtains justice for you from your fellow-man. Remember this: You are formed in the image upon which your mind dwells, the image of your thinking. It is natural to gravitate towards the ideal you love. Trust goes forth to meet trust. But if you have antagonism, unkind criticism or fear in your minds, so will you find these in your brother-man. You meet that which is like yourself, that which you seek. And each Soul ever sees only his own self, or soul, in another. Thus a wondrous light comes from a Soul endowed with spiritual gifts.

If you want to gain immortal love you must learn the lesson of *renunciation*. Never forget this or you will raise barriers which you will be unable to negotiate. Be still,

and thus be ready to receive the Father's blessing. The Father's Word is carried through your entire being, not only in thought, but in waves of love which will permeate every nerve and cell. Gain for yourselves a peaceful mind and let your hearts dwell in love, opening to give, opening to receive. Dwell on Life, my brethren, and Life will be born in your mind — the new Life filled with the Christ spirit and the Christ love, and thus you will receive a great Light which will shine as a flame of transcending glory.



*MAY THE BLESSINGS of our Father be upon each one, and may you be assured that His Love is always surrounding you, beloved brethren of Earth. Open your hearts to receive the Christ Child who waits patiently to dwell within you and to bring perfect peace and harmony, thus enabling you to see His Star shining in the heavens at all seasons.*

### III

#### WORLD CONDITIONS TODAY

THESE are "the last days." The leaders of the world of men have now warned all nations of the awful possibility of sudden destruction, not of a city, nor of a country, nor even yet a civilization, but sudden destruction of *all life* and everything in the world itself. The significance of the events of today is real enough. It is that the world in which you dwell, my brethren, has actually passed into the situation the Master Jesus and all of the Bible prophets consistently foretold.

From the beginning the Bible gave impressive warnings to a heedless and mocking world. Intellectual and intelligent men and women are daily talking about the world destruction and the end, and they are doing so without vision — without seeing the connection between that talk and what Jesus said two thousand years ago. If the rulers of Britain and America and the leaders of thought in other nations fail to understand that History is passing judgment upon itself, they must surely stand condemned in the judgment that most surely is coming.

Never before in the history of the world has humanity faced such a prospect of sudden and overall destruction. Yet your Bible has always said it would come to that. In spite of this, parliaments, governments, the rulers of the world, can talk and deliberate upon little besides civil defense and "peace and security" to be negotiated through armed strength and diplomatic maneuver. Let at least the English-speaking world know — and see that the people of other nations know it too — that God *alone* is mighty enough to save, and that sure help in every condition lies in putting Him first in all your affairs —na-

tionally, as well as in those of the individuals comprising the nations.

Beloved brethren, we do not wish to bring fear into your hearts, nor yet to sway your hope of future peace, because there is still time to avert calamity even though "the times are fulfilled" in the Great Plan for God's Children. The Great White Brotherhood have gathered in many places, and we work with you in the cause of peace, which can only be peace through God Who is Perfect Justice.

Seek the Silence, my brethren, because it is *there* you will learn the deepest Truths. There are moments of inner experience so important, so full of consequences that they will influence not only this Earth cycle but those in aeons to come. There are stains that must be washed out and cleansed before more light can be seen. No water from any earthly vessel can accomplish this nor can purify the Soul. It is only in the Soul itself that the peace can come which passeth all human understanding.

We look down and see a world at strife and we grieve, beloved ones, yet we know that it is the functioning of the Law of Cause and Effect, and that blessings will come out of the lessons learned by way of these effects for past seeds sown. No matter how terrible it may look today, every cloud has a silver lining. It is not for us to prophesy but we can see beyond — further than you can. We can see the fulfillment of The Plan, but we would not, for we *could* not, tell a time. Time is confined within the limits of the human mind, to the dweller upon the Earth still encased in flesh. To us it is a boundless, timeless Universe, endless space. We would not bind ourselves to time.

Those who attempt to prophesy as to a particular time often do so in an endeavor to bring reassurance and happiness to you.

Man is still bringing forth from his mind new methods for maiming and destroying his brother-man. In the Halls of Wisdom in the Higher Planes of Being are already

prepared wonderful inventions, and there they must remain until the mind of Man is attuned to the Higher Man — to the Divine Will.

Divine peace is in itself absolute justice. A peace which will endure can only be of Divine origin, which means it MUST BE the Peace of God. There must be no arrogance, no self-seeking, no desire for material gain, for therein lies grave danger; for men are demanding not only justice but control over the human destinies of their brethren of other nations. And Man is still busying his mind on yet more terrible devices for maiming and destroying his brothers who are manifestations of the Eternal Father God Himself.

Think of your own heart center as the center of your land, so that as faith in many hearts grows faint you can help to preserve the balance, the equilibrium of the world. Many a noble knight has gone forth in search of the Holy Grail, and we are all, both incarnate and discarnate, Knights of the Round Table, and at the center of each heart blooms the Rose of Peace.

God created you, beloved, for happiness; and happiness comes through service one to another. It is the divine heritage of each one to know harmony and peace within and without. To have this Heaven on Earth there must be perfect adjustment between man and woman — the positive and the negative. Then will the vibrations of Earth become elevated. Then can there be the Return of Jesus the Christ, the Perfect Initiate, the Perfect Man, representing within Himself the perfect and mystical marriage between the heart and the mind.

Each nation's spirit is the spirit of the combined spirits of the individuals which compose that nation; and the spirit of the world is the combined spirits of the nations. Thus you see your individual responsibility. Each of you is charged with elevating the consciousness of the whole world!

No nation can be wholly secularized, for it will take its secularism — its atheism even — with religious fervor

and commend it as the way of salvation for all. But no nation should use its spiritual mission as a mere sanction for its own interests and ambitions. The tensions between king and prophet in the ancient world reappear as the tension between expediency and conscience in the modern world. A nation's greatest hour is when it is prepared to sacrifice political advantage at the bidding of a Christian ideal.

Remember, beloved, that the whole history of the past one hundred years spells one word — WAR. Feeling trapped on this tragic moving staircase down into the abyss of world destruction, the average man or woman tends to become filled with a sense of hopelessness. You cease to care, my dear ones; you feel it is all too vast, too much beyond you as an individual. You feel you are a pawn, a puppet, in the hands of vast forces which are pushing relentlessly, like an avalanche, toward the valley of destruction. As a result of this, some are prepared to sell their liberty in exchange for economic security — the one thing which it seems can be understood. Life seems too complicated, and so the will of many people is surrendered to others for decisions — others who may not have the wisdom or right incentive for making right decisions.

We bid you remember in these days that dangers still surround you; not merely dangers from without, but dangers from within, and, above all, the danger lest you set so much store by the economic situation that you cease to evaluate rightly the more important realities of spiritual freedom, truth and justice.

Peace does not just happen. It must be watched over and guarded by every individual by developing and guarding the peace *within himself*. If Man is living only for today he may neglect to watch for and guard against insidious enemies creeping in to destroy his tomorrow. A new moral consciousness, a new moral seriousness in personal life will alone bring about a new moral effectiveness in national leadership. May you be led for-

ward into a renewed seriousness in life, into a greater moral consciousness, and into deeper faith in God the Father. We warn, however, that this spiritual awakening will not come easily, but it is *already in existence* in Christ the Lord. You have only to enter into it by being a sincere follower of Jesus the Christ.

A man (or woman) who does not know *who* he (or she) is cannot have right judgment nor any idea about these things which are above his own consciousness — above his own personality. Therefore, until Self-awareness is reached such people are carried along by an automatic movement which they call "life".

The politician who works only for the prosperity of his own state or nation never stops to think whether this particular state or nation is necessary for the Universe as a whole, or whether it will not disappear after a period of time to give place to other national entities of similar nature. He even fails to realize that the whole of this planet is not eternal; that everything in it created through the ages by countless generations of thinking beings will turn into dust without leaving the slightest trace of itself behind, just as no life now remains on that dead globe, the moon.

Beloved, there is no suitable way to express that realization which in its pure essence comes from the intuition and is beyond words — that realization received in the Silence. Hence any attempt to try to express the meaning of this understanding born from the spiritual Silence must fail. It is the REAL. The one who relinquishes his personality for the sake of the REAL ceases to be a slave to his illusions, and no longer has any belief in their usefulness; just as he must admit that his shadow cannot exist independently of his physical body.

There is a saying "All roads lead to Rome," which means that in the spiritual realm all efforts to find Truth, irrespective of creed, lead to the same final achievement. Belief in the superiority of any particular religion does not exist for one who follows the teaching of a true Master

of Wisdom, one who leads his students to the Ultimate Truth which exceeds and transcends all creeds. Such a Master can be reached only by those dedicated ones whose lives are examples for all to follow.

My brethren, not one of the various Faiths in your world has succeeded in giving the *true gifts of the Spirit*, nor in giving lasting happiness to the human race. Yet many of the Faiths have given a form of liberation — of salvation as you may call it — to some. The saintly powers of those who walk amongst you today is felt by those on a similar path toward Truth.

In the passing of time a revelation given in the past is of little account today. Men are apt to follow the texts of their chosen creed or Faith, but they do not seek to become like ‘Him who knoweth all things.’ But seeds sown in the heart can in time bring a rich harvest, and therein lies the future of erring Mankind.

Great changes are coming to America in these coming years. Many difficulties must be overcome, and it will take great patience to solve the problems that must arise. I hear the question of religious differences discussed in many places — Protestant *versus* Catholic. You ALL desire to serve God and do His Will, and even though a different approach be used, TRUTH is always the same.

Unity in worship however cannot be achieved easily. The differences between modes of worship have deep roots in history and in personal temperaments. They reflect the real difference in Faiths. You will not help the cause of Christian unity, my brethren, by stifling the voice of your critical faculty and saying it does not matter how you worship God. It *does* matter, because the kind of worship you offer symbolizes what you believe about God Who, beloved, is the Universal Father of all Mankind. How can you determine to worship God “in spirit and in truth” — which means in complete sincerity — if you sympathize with or join in worship in which you only *partly* believe? Can a convinced Protestant at High Mass, or an ardent Catholic in a Methodist church help feel-

ing alien and uncomfortable? Perhaps, in such a situation, you might think of yourself as a child visiting different houses in our Father's Kingdom. It is good to visit other houses and to partake of the hospitality and gifts offered; but it is also good to return home.

You should, my brethren, be getting on towards unity of worship, for you are ALL seeking the one Truth, even though through different approaches to it. When you look around at the participants in worship which is strange to you, can you not recognize that they, like yourself, are erring ones who are seeking enlightenment from God, the Father of our beloved Lord Jesus the Christ?

I think, beloved brethren, that the assembly of many churches held in India will eventually bring great changes in the world. Prayers here in the Higher Realms where I dwell will continue to be unceasing for unity in the worship of God.

The Saints of God, both incarnate and discarnate, gathered in large numbers at that meeting in Delhi where Catholic and Protestant met together, blessed that great assembly of seeking Souls who, I know, did not seek in vain.

The Protestant faith is a bulwark of power and strength in America and throughout the British commonwealth and it, too, was represented in that assembly in India called together by Pope John, then the leader of the Catholic faith.

There could have been no place more suitable for this than Delhi, the capital of that great country, because India was the birthplace of the human race, and that land is sacred with traditions of great power and with great teachers. I refer particularly to the Mahatma, or Master, Ghandi, whose influence and the pattern of whose life fills the hearts of those he taught to this day, and will do so for ages to come.



I will conclude with a few words on meditation.

When, in the Silence, spirit and soul meet, there is a stage of consciousness when you become unconscious of the outside world. In fact, there is a vanishing of the visible world, and there may even come a gap in the awareness of the life flowing through you. After a time, however, you will realize that you cannot lose the consciousness of the Life Current. Everything *can* and *will* pass, but you are still the I AM, and you know you exist.

In very deep meditation, beloved, you must still hold control of the Eternal Self, and when you return from the Silence you will have an awareness, though dim, that still remains with you. This I know is not easy to acquire, but Intuition — the soundless Voice — whispers that the solution will come to all your problems if in perfect faith you wait upon God as you enter meditation with everything shut out that is connected with the outside world. Then Truth as a flash of light brings peace — which is Life; for Truth and Life cannot be separated. And in this deep silence come the solutions for national as well as personal problems, my beloved.

May you recognize that difference of religious faith does not matter so long as the Soul is "fixed on God" and true service to Him is the principal issue in the life of each one who worships Him.

Remember, the world is the people, and "the people" are individuals. In these last days it is important that every spiritually awakened person *live* Christianity to the utmost, ever seeking through meditation and prayer to know God's daily plan for you. And it is important that you pray for the spiritual awakening of every person you know who has not yet come to know of his inherent divinity. A mighty Christian army, under direct and loving direction of our Father, is the one way to overcome the threatening darkness.

Darkness is only a void, an emptiness waiting to be filled with Light. Light banishes darkness, for Light fills the void. "Light puts out darkness" — enlightenment fills the void of ignorance — banishes it — puts it out. But

darkness cannot put out Light, nor can ignorance ever put out the enlightenment of true knowledge. Your loving service to Mankind and the world is therefore clear: "Let your Light (Divine Love) so shine that all may see your good works" and thus you are co-creators with God in establishing His Kingdom upon Earth in accordance with His Great Plan. God bless you!



*Loving Father of ALL, may Thy great human family rededicate their lives each day to Thy service in love, humility, unselfishness, and so be shining examples as Soldiers of Christ, wearing the Breastplate of Righteousness.*

*May they carry His Banner before them so that all that is evil may move away and good hold sway wherever they go on Life's Highway.*

*Give to all courage to bring into action the Reality in which all life is rooted, which is TRUTH. May all remember that Love is the inclusive term of all other perfections, the very heart of Reality, and even the perfection of Thy divine nature.*

*We pray Thee to bless the Shrine where Thy Precepts are given, and where Thy Messengers work in close cooperation with their human brethren.*

*May the Light go forth throughout America which with Britain will lead the world to peace. Amen.*

## IV

### THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

SOME of you who read this are already consciously in contact with your Guardian Angel or your Teacher. You know a personality; you know a voice; you know the companionship of this one. Do you also realize there is a love beyond all earthly understanding with you, and not only with you but with all life? This love comes from the Teachers who have the welfare of their incarnate brethren so much at heart that they have forgotten self and all that self desires, and so greatly do they love you that they sacrifice all glory and beauty they have attained through age long experience in order to return to you; for never before in the history of the world has there been seen such strife and threat of world-wide warfare as there is today.

These Teachers of yours lay down the life of Heaven at your feet, to love you and to stand by your side through all your earthly pilgrimage. Think of this, my beloved brethren, and when you make an effort to be still in spirit, then you make an effort toward the Christ-life, and you thus give to these loved ones much joy, such indescribable joy, that if you realized it you would never again give way to the weakness of the flesh, or become enfolded in the illusions of material life.

Some of you may have doubts about this contact with your Teacher; you are not completely sure perhaps of the other plane. But this is a denial by the lower mind, the lower mental body. Could you be completely true to the Voice Within, and, in the silence and quietude of your spirit, look into the mirror of Truth — if you are pure and humble in spirit — you will see Truth and

admit that you do know a wise and loving one is by your side.

Some difficulty and confusion will arise in the course of your development. This part of the path has to be traversed — I am going to call it “the world of illusion” — other teachers may employ other names. Sometimes it is referred to as the “psychic plane,” and with a good deal of condemnation by some schools of thought — which we think is a pity, because the Soul learns so much in passing through the world of illusion, or the psychic plane. The physical world is also to a very great extent a world of illusion. But then you come to the psychic plane, or what is called the astral plane — which again is not a true description, because the astral plane can penetrate beyond the plane of illusion. We refer to the condition immediately surrounding the physical life of man; the physical or material condition forms a part of this world of illusion.

The first astral realm into which the Soul passes when it leaves the physical body is a much more intricate and subtle world of illusion. Contact with this world may teach many valuable lessons, chief among them being the lesson of discrimination.

When the Soul leaves the physical body in most cases it traverses the world of illusion and on its journey all kinds of memories crowd in upon the Soul. But this condition is illusory and not a real world of spirit. The condition is passed through quickly in most cases; but if the Soul, when incarnate, clings to the material world and its illusions, it will still cling to illusion after death of the body, and will take a long time in reaching the higher worlds of clarity, truth and reality.

There will come a time in your development when you will most surely contact this world of illusion — a subtle and valuable experience. You may receive messages which you think reliable, and so they will appear; yet you will eventually be disillusioned and disappointed. Do not be disheartened by these experiences. It is all in

the course of your development and it is far better to suffer disappointment and confusion than for you to turn away and avoid them altogether. It is a condition of consciousness through which every Soul must pass. Some of you may have received psychic messages. All of you have the power to receive impressions and true communications from those who dwell in higher realms of consciousness.

In spiritual development, when you first become conscious of the other realms, you may receive a certain measure of confusion. Do not blame your Guardian or Teacher for this. These conditions are necessary. The purpose of this world of illusion is to draw forth from Man the power to recognize Truth and to discern Truth from falsity. The earth-life is full of deception, and people and things are not what they seem. Remember that part of the course of your spiritual unfoldment is to develop a true sense of discrimination.

If your Teacher is giving you messages he will be concerned first and foremost with the whole plan of spiritual evolution. His love for you is pure and beyond personal limitations, and his thought is not only for the good of the one, but for the whole. In your spiritual development many conflicting statements can be made. Paradoxes may arise and bring confusion. Remember, my beloved, it is for *you* to "dot your i's and cross your t's," not for those who help from the world of spirit; although you may have a plate of nourishing food before you, *you* must use the knife and fork, and you must also digest the food yourself.

In other words, it is necessary that you ponder carefully all that is said and try to reconcile apparently conflicting statements. Truth has more than one aspect, much as Man may approach God through many avenues or forms of belief. Therefore, shun dogmatism or haste, condemn nothing and no one, but let your approach to Truth be orderly, systematic and patient.

Some schools of thought resent any interference with

personal and individual development and would reject the influence of any Teacher from above. Their whole aim is to develop individualism or greater spiritual stature by their own individual effort. They cling to what is called their ego, desiring to stand upon their own feet, wishing to be self-made, and only Self. We mean by this not the lower self but the God-self. They strive towards a God-expression but would discourage the influence of any other being from the realms of spirit clouding their understanding of their own vision.

May we, however, put another aspect to you? All life is a blending of atoms. The whole process of growth is inter-action. It is impossible for one of you to grow whilst isolated. Each Soul is dependent upon others by an inviolate Cosmic Law of Evolution. You cannot be independent. You may have independent desires and outlooks, but nevertheless you are dependent upon thousands of your fellow-beings in the humblest as well as the highest walks of life. The influence of millions of human beings affects you daily. The whole purpose of life is to bring about this harmonizing, this coordinating and cooperating, as an expression of universal love.

We speak in loving appreciation of these Angel Guardians and Teachers. They have certain work to do for those to whom they are attracted. May we all appreciate their simple and faithful service.

All around you in your earthly toils are unseen companions. The mind of Man very often grows arrogant because he, by following and developing the self-will and intellectual aspects of his being, rejects the help he could receive from the Unseen. Even though some still may be on the higher astral planes, they have lessons to teach Man on Earth, having gained a measure of freedom from the clay, and having seen a measure of the love of God manifested on finer planes of life.

Another thing, beloved ones: like attracts like. You and we of the Great White Brotherhood (although we are discarnate) are governed by the same law and are

surrounded by Beings above our own particular sphere of activity. You on Earth may reject the guidance of Spirit Beings but it makes no difference to the Law — the Law which says that the brother above must ever reach down to help the brother below on the evolutionary path — the spiritual path of "returning Home." In all mystery schools this Law is well known. The elder Mason gives always loving help to the younger brother. Moreover, humanity is guided and inspired, from the most materialistic to the highest intellectual, by Spirit Beings. A man may congratulate himself on his own cleverness, but if he thinks thus he is mistaken. Nevertheless, many take to themselves all credit for being expert authors, writers, musicians, scientists, leaders, or even clever business men, organizers or doctors. They would indeed be great were they to recognize that of themselves they can do nothing. They receive rays of wisdom and power sent by the Higher Beings. And each individual on Earth is accompanied from birth to death by a Guardian Angel, by one responsible to a still Higher Being for his incarnate charge.

No Guardian interferes with the most sacred individual right of free will, however. Every man and woman brings free will into incarnation as a divine birthright. But this is always subject to the two mighty forces — positive and negative. To the individual alone remains the choice. He can respond to negative influences or react to the higher, to the positive constructive urge. The Angel Guardian accompanies Man on his journey to give him uplifting, guiding Love — if he will receive it. Man even has free choice to reject this divine gift if he so wishes.

To every Soul — humbly, truly aspiring to the path of light, to serve God — always comes as much spiritual help and guidance as he can absorb. But one thing is necessary — HUMILITY. You can serve your lesser brethren at all times, be they human or of the animal kingdom. All men are equipped for some measure of service to their

brethren in life. What a grave responsibility, but what a joyous thought!

*Oh, Father God, we thank Thee that Thou dost permit Thy children to help Thee in the lowly ways in Thy Household!*

Your Guardian Angel is drawn to you by certain laws, and remains with you until certain obligations have been fulfilled. Your Guardian of today may be as a dear old friend and brother in some future state, having fulfilled his purpose; and you will pass into the hands of more advanced Beings who will initiate you into the deeper Wisdom.

Thus the Soul journeys through the spheres into the highest place from which any Soul, any spirit, can return to bring Man the love of God which he has absorbed into his own being. You may this very night speak to your Teacher on the mountain top, or in the stillness of the dawn within make the conscious link with him who is your Teacher, but also your brother. Talk to him. He will answer you unmistakably, will guide you — not bearing your responsibility, but companioning you to the light.

*Our Father, Thou hast blessed us with Thy Love; Thou hast united us through Thy Love. We would be more worthy of Thy Gifts.*

Members of the Great White Brotherhood, being of higher planes, have finished the path of rebirth and the astral planes, but at this time, this beginning of a new age, there are many of them who are contacting the dense conditions of matter to help humanity now. There are those who are walking the Earth plane today. They walk in and out of the world of men, they assist and advise; then they pass on their way. There are many who meet them just briefly. Then suddenly they are gone. These are the Masters and they have come from the Spiritual Plane to help humanity in this time of crisis.

There are Angels in every home — yes, your Guardians. And do you not know that the Angels bow their heads in sorrow when there is discord in the home?

There are also Angels who attend the birth of every child. To every Soul born into the world a Guardian Angel is attached. The Guardian Angel is not of the highest sphere, but is of angelic, not human, origin and is the Guardian of the Law. Angels are custodians of the karmic law which governs every child born.

As you know, my beloved, the Archangel Michael is the special Angel Guide of Youth all over your planet. In the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels — which the Christian Churches celebrate at Michaelmas — is affirmed the existence of Angels who move unseen among men and women and influence their lives.

Throughout your Bible, from the Angels of Eden to the Heavenly Hosts of *Revelation*, this supernatural order is treated as entirely natural. Gabriel of the Annunciation is no subjective vision, but as actual as the maiden he addresses. The Angelic hosts around Elisha are as real as the Syrian hosts. In *no* part of your Bible, my brethren, is the activity of Angels regarded as a marvel which needs argument to explain them. They are recognized as a normal part of the Divine scheme which shapes and controls the Universe. And this view is strongly supported in many of the recorded sayings of the Master Jesus.

It is necessary to have belief in unseen spiritual helpers, my dear ones. Remember, the use of invisible forces has become a commonplace in your daily lives. Man has tamed the unseen power which causes the skies to flicker with lightning to glow serenely in his room, to cook his meals, and to bring him the words of a voice thousands of miles away. He is still but on the verge of learning what almost inconceivable things may be brought to pass by invisible rays, either of healing and enrichment *or* of cataclysmic destruction.

We would say to you, my beloved, when the presence and potencies of invisible powers in the natural world

have been revealed, when the unseen *spiritual* element in mankind overcomes and masters his physical setting, can it seem incredible that our Father God should have created unseen spiritual beings to whom He would delegate a share of Man's protection and guidance? Some such belief is found in almost every kind of religion or faith in your world today.

Michael and his Angels surround this Earth, seeking to bring into the minds and hearts of Youth illumination which will quicken the desire for peace and good will. And this will be the forerunner of war's cessation at the beginning of the New Age of Aquarius when woman, the Mother, will come into her own. Under her wise and just guardianship Youth will go forth under the Golden Banner of Michael to overcome the rule of evil, injustice, and lack of brotherhood, and to bring love, wisdom, and understanding of the needs of *all* mankind.

There is in England a coin on which Michael is seen piercing the dragon. This symbolizes his slaying, or overcoming, of the dragon of materialism. In early Earth years children are taught of Angels and have perfect faith in them, and there are many ancient stories and purported legends of Angelic Beings visiting certain men and women in their homes. It cannot be only legend! There must be those who clairvoyantly have seen these radiant beings to portray them on canvas and in music.

In your Bible, my brethren, there are many allusions to Angel visitants. St. Peter was released from prison by an Angel, and both Mary and Elizabeth of the New Testament were visited by an angelic messenger who brought them glorious news. Have Angels wings, as they are mostly portrayed, and especially so to the children? We say to those with clairvoyant vision who may see one of these the Being which may appear as wings sweeping in circles radiant Beings: it is the pure, bright, beautiful aura of light from the shoulders.

An Angel is without a human body but is of pure spirit — the highest and greatest of them all being St.

Michael. At the feast of St. Michael and All Angels those who raise their thoughts and consciousness to the higher spheres of life will receive blessings and an inflow of divine love. They may also through prayer and meditation become conscious of beautiful visions, and great soul upliftment will surely follow.

St. Michael is usually seen in pictures riding a white horse, with a sword in his hand — the sword of Truth, the sword of the Spirit. It is a symbol of spiritual power, the secret of the God-life in man, and also signifies the battle to be won over the forces of evil so as to destroy their power over the Soul. St. Michael has never thus far incarnated on your Earth, my brethren, but his pure spiritual influence has been felt down through the ages. He rides across the world on his white horse holding aloft the shining sword — a divine Spirit, preparing the way behind the scenes of your physical life for the second advent of the Christ.

Nearer your Earth now are the Great White Brotherhood, many of whom have incarnated on your planet although they have finished with the lessons to be learned there. We do not say they will not have lives on higher planets, this Earth on which you dwell being the lowest and most material of them all. We are all working together to prepare mankind in the present for that future towards which you are all journeying.

In your meditation you can, if you are spiritually aware, have a vision of an Angel, because your own discarnate Brotherhood are always with you, and each of you has beside you the Guardian Angel who accompanies you through this Earth life. "He shall give His Angels charge concerning you" is a promise given by Jesus, referring to the Father of all.

The ministry of Angels is an acknowledged teaching of every Christian church, and every dedicated Lodge of the Brotherhood is surrounded by spiritual Beings from the world of Light rendering their loving service at all times. *Be conscious of their presence*, my brethren, and

recognize their unselfishness in coming into the dense conditions of this planet to bring Light out of darkness and Peace out of strife and discord. Render unto them *your* service and help them with your prayers and understanding.

Many men and women today are seeking Truth according to the religious faith to which they are attuned, yet how many find only disappointment because the teachers themselves may not have found the Truth and, therefore, cannot reveal it to the many waiting, seeking souls. But there are many discarnate souls, great Teachers, surrounding your world today, beloved brethren, the Saints and Sages who have lived amongst men, labored with them and sought to deliver their message of Truth in ages long past. They have made contact once more with your planet at this most critical time, and are bringing their influence to bear upon those who have an inner manifestation of Light and Truth, who are now being able to *bring forth* what they have in their hearts into their daily lives — into tabernacles, churches, or anywhere they may go, seeking to lead their brethren from darkness into the Light of God's Day.

The souls of many who are so awakened are being quickened for special work which will be theirs in the New Age. Perhaps even before you enter another year, my beloved ones, you may become ready and will be called. So be alert that no evil may assail you from within or without. Remember, the Kingdom of Heaven is the kingdom of love, of truth. The Man of Nazareth demonstrated this during His earthly ministry. You can also demonstrate the same in all the acts, aspirations and thoughts of your own lives day by day and so live in that Kingdom, and in this way have a *living knowing* of harmony and peace.

We have referred to the Teachers who are surrounding the Earth today, who may be incarnate or discarnate, according to their special work. To the Initiate it is known that the Yogi who dwell in the Himalaya Mountains are

able to appear or disappear as they desire. The reason is that they as Masters understand how to raise the vibrations of their bodies beyond human vision. The time is drawing near when certain Great Ones who have passed through all the experiences of Earth lives are once more reincarnating into this world in order to help and to teach their brethren the Way of Life, as exemplified by the Lord Jesus. They do not come as babes because they are masters of the air, the sunshine, the elements of Earth and know how to use them to form their human bodies. In former times of great crisis they have come, but their teachings were repudiated, and they suffered persecution, torture, and physical death from their brethren on Earth as the reward for their efforts. But now once more they come because there is more light and understanding in the world, and also because your world crisis holds such far-reaching danger that it even threatens the entire human race. *This time* the Great Brothers will be welcomed and their message received.

This planet, my brethren, must survive because it is needed in the evolution of the human race. To each one we would therefore say: Always be ready so that when you meet one of these Teachers you may recognize him or her by the light which shines in the aura and the spiritual essence which blesses you. They will need also the help of their human brethren, and this they can only obtain by contact with those who radiate the light from within. These Masters have surrendered all for love. They love even the darkest sinner. They have surrendered everything for the sake of the eventual fulfillment of their work. This surrender, my brethren, is referred to in the *Revelation* of John the Beloved, as the Elders "casting down their crowns before the Throne of God."

It is not possible for any Soul to remain forever selfish and apart from its fellows. It *must* pour forth love upon all its brethren and upon every condition of life. A soul which has passed through an initiation (the highest, if it is Love) sends forth great waves of love and truth, and

the Souls on that path of initiation will at once respond.

We would sound once more a note of warning: There are many today who meet one they acclaim as a great Initiate, a Master, and at once follow that one blindly. We say a Master will be known by the power and by the light which shines in his aura, by his purity, sincerity and love for ALL — never a harsh word, never unjust or thoughtless criticism; always on the alert to render service to all his brethren in the Master's Name — this is the true Master, the great Initiate. "By their fruits ye shall know them" holds as true today as at the time these words were taught by the Christ.

Those of you who are familiar with the scriptures of your Bible may be mentally questioning, "What about the Angels of Darkness — who and what are they?" Before humanity was sent forth upon the path of earthly experience Angels dwelt upon Earth — advanced beings banding near to assist humanity in its establishment upon the Earth. There are Angels of Light and Angels of the Shadows, Principalities and Powers of both Good and Evil. We will restate this last sentence and say, Angels *in* the light, Angels *in* the shadows — Angels who serve the Light, the positive side, and Angels who serve the Darkness, the negative side. You must realize, my brethren, that the Angels of Light, or "good", stand for the forces of construction, rebirth, growth; those of the shadows, or "evil," standing for the, *at this time*, equally necessary forces of destruction, death — the return to the elements in preparation for yet another Springtime, another birth. These forces are ever at work pruning away those aspects of individual and national life and thought that have outgrown their usefulness. Did not the Beloved Master Jesus teach that one must allow the personal self to die in order to reduce oneself to the innocent trusting state of a small child so that one could then be re-born into inner teachings of Truth?

Do not think, therefore, of the Light and the Dark Angels as adversaries, but rather as the one a comple-

ment of the other. Never seek to minimize their power, for both aspects of angelic life are always active, from generation to generation, in cycle after cycle of Earth's humanity, to assist the growth and to destroy all that has served its purpose, and all that is unworthy in mankind. There are always the two aspects in each human life, both in its physical aspect and encountered on the spiritual journey. Work in harmony, live in harmony, by giving yourself confidently to your Father God. Then the Angels of Light will work with you and assist you in the unfolding of the God-principle in your brethren.

There has always been good and evil in the world. If there were not evil, my beloved ones, there would be no incentive to good. I would bid you remember that. And the Great Father God, the Divine Father of us all, has knowledge of both good and evil, and this must be so. By the overcoming of evil, which is the force of darkness, mankind journeys ever upwards toward the light. Remember that all mankind when on the upward path toward the light recognizes and feels the power of Earth — we might call it "the pull of the Earth," for Man is born into a material and a physical world, and this brings a measure of self-centeredness and selfishness. This is a natural thing, for it is in all those who are born into the flesh. It is a form, we might say, of self-protection. But it is right to bring the God-Consciousness, the Light, forth from the innermost heart, which will have supremacy over all the limitations and the darkness of the flesh.

The problem of "*good*" and "*evil*" is a very difficult one to solve. Nevertheless, we emphasize the fact that these two forces are not so opposed as appearance warrants. Marching in step with the creative powers of good must always tread the destructive powers of evil. Even as in your Earth life it is necessary to destroy rubbish and garbage, so it is also with the economics of the Universe.

Might we not then describe the Angels of Darkness as the individualized Powers of Evil, as great destructive forces which consume that which is unwanted in the

scheme, a perpetual absorption from actual being of those things which prove undesirable? Thus it may be suggested that the Powers of Evil cloak ultimate Good. Being negative, it is true they absorb from life — the human life, the universal life — absorb that which is unwanted, cast off, and discarded. Appearing to destroy, actually they do not destroy, they consume — or rather, they transmute. Conceive of them, therefore, as transmuting the undesirable to the eventually beautiful.

It is well to remember that your Father God does differentiate between good and evil, and that He is unalterably opposed to all that sins against goodness and His purpose of love for mankind. Not every man begins to tread the Christian way as did "*Christian*," in that wonderful book containing great truths, *Pilgrim's Progress*, with a heavy load of guilt upon his conscience, which must be shed before he can make true progress toward the Celestial City. Many of our beloved brethren are attracted to the Christian way of life by the beauty of the life of Jesus and of His teaching; others because they see in Him the only hope of a world which has lost its sense of purpose and direction. But sooner or later in some measure His disciple enters into an experience of that *humility* without which he can never fully understand and share the true Christian spirit.

But a man's sense of his own unworthiness is but a beginning, or perhaps we may say a new beginning. Your Bible speaks to men's minds, telling them what they need most to know about God, themselves, and the world, illuminating their thought about the fundamental human problems. It is, my brethren, the supreme fount and channel of spiritual understanding and inspiration. But it speaks also to Man's spirit, offering him help and strength in his direst need, consolation in his distress and assurance of God's care of him.



*We pray Thee to send to the weak in spirit the Angels of Power, and may those who stand upon the brink of spiritual darkness feel the hand of the Angel of Light which shall lead each one onto the path of Peace.*

*We thank Thee for the message of hope and encouragement that comes to suffering men and women from the Saints who have gone on before, and we thank Thee for those upon this Earth who are doing noble service for the freedom of human souls.*

*Unfold, Oh, Father of Love, to ALL Thy Children a new revelation which shall bring the glorious assurance of hope to the least in Thy Kingdom, and the joy that awaiteth Thy faithful ones.*

*We praise and magnify Thee always. Amen.*

V

## DEATH, AND WHAT COMES AFTER DEATH

*Peace be with you all, beloved brethren of Earth! Go forward on the Path of Life with courage in your hearts; whatever awaits you, greet it with calmness and poise of spirit, and you will find reinforcements of spiritual power to help you in whatever problems you have to face.*

*Remember always that the treasures of the Unseen are yours to share, and that in spirit there can be no separation. All things grow toward unity—each human spirit is a god in embryo, all in themselves linked with God in at-one-ment; you can separate yourselves from your fellows, but not from God.*

*Blessings of the Eternal rest on each one!*

**T**HERE is one great subject that concerns all mankind, and especially at this particular time of Earth life, and this is: *death and what comes after death*. We, my beloved ones, who come to you from the Realms of Spirit, bring to each one of you a message of hope, happiness and peace. I would stress this because the subject of death is one which all men fear and the thought of which all men shun, even such as have had communion with those in the Great Beyond. I desire to say to you most emphatically that you have nothing to fear, my beloved; rather it is an experience to face with courage and calmness of spirit, realizing that when the call comes you are about to enter into an experience which the Wise Ones expressed in their mystery teaching as *initiation*. You as a candidate, are no longer in a state of darkness, but called to enter the Temple of Initiation.

It is a common error made by our human brethren that the only life worth having is the one spent in the physical body, the life you *know*. How false a conception this is, and how disappointing and unsatisfactory! Most of you are acquainted with the old, old story of the "Fall of Man" depicted in your Bible. Unfortunately, so many reject the oldfashioned story of the Old Testament because it appears to affront their reason. I would say, when anything affronts your reason do not discard it, but examine it and see if your intuition will throw any light upon the problem. I desire to bring this old story to your notice because therein is a deep mystery which affects life and death.

I would refer to the "Fall" as the *Descent of Man* from that high estate of pure and perfect love into which the Soul is born, a condition of life pure in its love, and which knows not sorrow — a Garden of Eden, a perfecting of all beauty; the glory of sunlight, the harmony of surroundings, close contact with the nature spirits and with the angelic hosts — in very truth, a more beautiful state than the human mind can conceive. You know the story, my beloved — how the Man and Woman, through desire for knowledge and experience, withdrew from perfect bliss, and descended. On the Earth they learned to toil, and they had to know physical death, and together with death — birth. They had withdrawn from peace and love, because they needed knowledge. To live in Heaven was not enough; for that which they sought they were willing to suffer. Whereas, before this, procreation had been under the direction and control of Angelic Ones, when Man descended he rejected all control and asserted his own free will — for the wisdom (or the serpent) had told him that he could create bodies; he need have no fear.

This old, old story, much older than your Christian Bible, has come down from the very beginning of time. These Mysteries came from the early temples erected by the God-men on a continent long since faded from the surface of the Earth, a continent which existed before

Atlantis. But, my beloved, these Mysteries have never been allowed to die; they have been handed down by the Initiates, by the Elder Brethren of each race. The same simple truth can be traced in all these ancient Mysteries. There is that in the Temples of the East and West written for those who can read and understand. On islands in the Pacific will be found the same symbols as in Mexico, Egypt, India, Tibet, and the story these symbols tell is of the birth of the Soul and its journey after death — indeed, the path which every Soul has to travel on its return journey to that land of light and peace to which I have referred.

This ancient story, to be found in West and East, is more usually known by the study of the Egyptian Mysteries, but the Grecian Mysteries tell the same, as do the Masonic Rites, and the Christian religion. But these Mysteries are ever veiled from the foolish, and can only be unveiled by the pure Soul, full of love for his fellows and for God, whose ardent desire is to progress, not only for his own advantage, but in order that he may be of service to his brother-man.

You will remember, if you have studied the *Egyptian Book of the Dead* — the Egyptian Mysteries — how the neophyte was warned before he committed himself to the experiences of the temple. The Great Pyramid and other temples were temples of Initiation; and as you journey with the Initiate through his various experiences, you find that you follow the journey of the Soul which leaves the physical body and enters the life after death. The purpose of the Mysteries was to teach the Soul how best to equip itself for the journey it must surely take. When the Soul first enters the temple (the Soul coming to the World of Spirit so often in a state of ignorance) it knows not what awaits it. Those acquainted with Mystery teachings will know the Soul always comes accompanied by its Angel Guardian. A paradox, perhaps, my beloved, for you have heard that the Soul always must pass through death *alone*.

In the first place, the wisdom which you gain on your journey is only learned through personal experience. Remember, you can never pass to another that which can be learned only through experience. Parents try to warn a beloved child, but the child will not listen. The child needs to feel the hurt, and then it knows. You are all like children — you do not believe what you are told by another but you must experience for yourselves, and taste the joys or sorrows of this experience. This is why I have said that the Soul takes the journey alone. It must feel for itself, it must suffer, it must learn courage, which comes and says: "I will not fear, I will go on."

In the Egyptian Mysteries the candidate was allowed, at different stages of his journey through the temple of Initiation, to withdraw if he wished. The same applies to Masonic schools today. At a certain step on the way, permission is given to withdraw. But there is within the Soul of Man a Divine urge — the spirit of truth, the Light — and this urge directs Man forward. The lesson which all must learn is to go forward without fear. Fear is the enemy which creates the apparent torture and the suffering the Soul undergoes. When the Soul realizes that there is nothing to fear, because within him is the spirit of God, the light within will illumine the path to that Heaven World which of his own free will he once left. Surely, my dear ones, there is nothing to fear in death. Life on Earth is the jailer, death is the Angel sent to draw the bolts and set free the captive soul.

I will not dwell on the journey through the lower spheres of astral life; you have the story in your Christian Bible — the three temptations — of the flesh, the mind and the spirit. When you are released from your physical body, your Soul passes through similar experiences. It has to learn to overcome the desires of the physical, etheric and astral worlds, to rise above them until the lower self plays no part. The Soul passes through the astral world to the mental world, and in this world of thought still comes the urge, the Light within which says,

"Not here is your home, but forward, ever forward." The candidate recognizes that even in the mental plane he must not be held, he must not be imprisoned, he must free himself. He passes into the Celestial or Heaven World, his true home, the home of peace and joy, of perfect freedom, as it were on a mountain, and he can look back upon the path he has traversed.

In the actual passing from the physical body there is nothing to fear. Death is a beautiful experience. I have passed through it, my beloved, so I *know*. That which you see of the Earth earthy, and which seems to suffer, does not really suffer. It only appears to do so. Do not dwell upon the physical garment, but if you are desirous of helping the passing of your loved ones, think always of the true nature, concentrate always on the REAL SELF which goes on to an experience inexpressibly lovely. At the actual passing, unconsciousness always mercifully enfolds the candidate, as though a white robe is put on one about to be initiated.

Questions will arise in your minds, my dear ones, about sudden death. Sudden death to you of Earth is not sudden to those waiting to receive the newly-born Soul. I would say, in reality there is no such thing as accident; accident is a method of passing. "There is a destiny that shapes our ends" — a destiny behind all the happenings of life. When Man realizes this, when he recognizes the laws governing his physical and spiritual life, he will find true peace of soul. The great Architect holds the plan; nothing can happen outside the plan. The plan of your present life was created from your past, and the plan of your future life is now being drawn by your present life. When a man meets sudden death, there is a reason. (I am not referring to war deaths, they are entirely apart from what I am showing you.) One reason may interest you: in a past life a man may have ended his own life. In the next life it may be his portion to pass suddenly through accident because of that seed sown in the past. You may ask: "But if all is in the plan, then Man has no

choice." Yes, Man has a choice. The choice is this: You can follow the light and guidance of the highest Self and thus wisely create your next life, or you may follow the lowest self, react from the lowest aspect of yourself, and you will reap accordingly in your next life incarnate.

When a Soul passes out apparently through sudden death, it is known to those who have that Soul in their care. Also when a Soul is about to pass away from the body through sickness, preparation is made in the new home to which that Soul is to go. The Guardian is there to meet and to help. Usually when death is by accident, the conditions prepared are such that the Soul is unaware that it has passed, so exact is the replica of the conditions on the Earth plane. When the Soul is therefore adjusted to the idea of having passed, no shock is given, it is so tenderly cared for.

It is unwise and needless to be anxious about your loved ones who are about to pass onward, or who have already passed. Had your own lives been one-half as tender and loving as those Angel Guardians who attend them, your lives would be good and gentle indeed. Be at peace therefore, my beloved, about those who are called to take the journey before you.

It is well to preserve quietude when a Soul has just departed from its physical garment of flesh. During those few seconds or minutes a wonderful phenomenon takes place. The memory of the whole past life is being photographed on to the body of light, that body which now passes onward. It is well not to disturb this work. With a sudden passing provision is made, the same process goes on, the soul carries onward a memory of the experiences and lessons of the past. At a later time these lessons are absorbed and the Soul is able to review and to learn from its past experience.

There is a great beauty in the World of Spirit to which in this present day of life so many are journeying through conditions of warfare and strife. It is true that in the lower astral spheres are conditions of darkness and de-

sire, but we can confidently tell you that Souls living kindly and simple lives on Earth pass through these spheres unscathed into surroundings of beauty, harmony and love. Occasionally these Souls desire to send a message to their loved ones on Earth. They are permitted to do so, and often this helps both the one on Earth and the Soul travelling onward.

I wish to bring comfort to those who have been recently bereaved. Your loved ones, my beloved, travelling onward and upward have not necessarily passed out of reach. It depends upon you. If your vibrations are pure and kindly, if your heart is full of love, there is no separation; because you thus raise your vibrations, and through your aspirations are still with them. You can thus travel their journey with them while you are still on Earth.

May I paint a picture of your loved ones in the heavenly life? This is indeed *real*. You think your Earth lives are real; they are only illusions, for all that is *real* lives in the Heaven World, and that which is of the Earth must of necessity die because by its very substance it can have no permanence.

I would repeat what I have said before, my beloved: that which is of the spirit never dies but goes forward beyond the spheres of spiritual life, forward to other spheres, to other more evolved planets, and to a great life of indescribable grandeur and glory. We have never said that when a Soul has finished its life on Earth it has no other existence except in the higher spheres. When the Soul has experienced the whole gamut of human emotion, known suffering and sorrow, and come through unscathed at last, then it has finished with a physical life, having learned the lessons necessary. However, there are still other lessons to learn, my dear ones, other and different conditions to experience, so the Soul may journey to other planets, or other worlds unknown to your human senses, where it continues on the spiral of evolution until eventually it becomes perfected and ready for the ultimate *Nirvana*.

You can *never* die, my dear ones — the essence of your spirit, all that is beautiful, calm, worthy within — ever grows and expands. The sordid, the impure, the fearful — all that is evil — will fade away as you learn more of the spiritual life. I say the time will come in the process of evolution when the physical body of Man will no longer die. Already there are great Souls who can function on all planes at will. You will find them in the vast solitudes of India — those who have sought and found the sacred mysteries hidden in the bosom of India, but which will shortly be given to the Western World.

The continuity of life is not broken when breath leaves the physical body; death is the means by which life is liberated, becoming ever more intense. Memory exists, although you learn the power to dissolve into nothingness all that is not of use — and this is true forgetfulness. You are greater than your form — you have no limit; you take limitations for purposes at present hidden from you. The true personality is not the fleshly form or a separate body, but, by reason of its greatness, is best manifested in part. St. Paul, who had learned this mystery, tells you plainly that the body is for the Lord; therefore it is quite clear that the body or form is only a part of the great whole — the mystic body of the Christ.

You all shrink, and very naturally, from any thought of loss, and any thought that occasions this shrinking or pain should be quickly and firmly dropped from your consciousness without strife or resistance. You will retain your personalities, my brethren, as long as you need them, and you will need them much longer yet. When you are released from your mortal bodies and from the material plane, you will meet again your loved ones and the meeting will be sweetly familiar, a great deal more so than you can imagine, for they and you will be enriched by the love between you. Your loss is always gain. You can help them by your love and your prayers, and they help you by their unseen presence, and by their inspiration sent toward you. Bless them and become con-

scious of unity, which is a blessed reality. There is nothing strange in what I am telling you; in the realms beyond the Earth you are just what you have made yourselves, and they who *love* you here would not have you with them until you have *finished* your Earth plan of life. In fact, you are near them at all times, but the veil is over your eyes at present. Love, love, love — this is a potent force.

It would not meet the demands of your natures to arrive suddenly at the end of being, since everything in God's plan is in perfect order. There must, my dear ones, be gradual unfoldment and development. The time comes when even the spirit ceases to need its personal form; but it can always resume it at will. The Apostle Paul was allowed to enter the inner realms, and he tells you that your inner Self is renewed each and every day in an identity peculiarly your own and exactly resembling you as you appeared, except that you have added the spiritual realities, refining and defining all the highest and best.

Your refined spiritual body is the illumined etheric or resurrection body, and it is clothed in white raiment to appear before mortal eyes after your passing from Earth.

There are many Beings drawn to this planet today who come as Bearers of Light. They can see your light, my beloved. The radiation in your auras can be magnified and strengthened with their help. With this strengthening there will follow an enrichment, a quickening of the spirit within each one, so you yourselves will unfold and develop those inner gifts and faculties which lie latent within you. The most divine gift is that which brings to you recognition of the God within your fellow men, in spite of worries, friction and petty irritations. Nothing really matters but this knowledge. If you desire to see Earth's chaos and wrongs righted, then first seek the Kingdom of Heaven *within*. You will find this Heaven more speedily by seeing the light of the Kingdom within your brother. When your powers, my beloved, become

so quickened that such a recognition becomes natural to you and normal, then you will have solved the mysteries of life and death. Always remember, the change which may seem to take a dearly loved relative or friend from you does nothing of the kind, but rather brings that loved one into closer relationship with your indwelling Self, the spirit which is *you*. If you desire to find true union with those you love, then learn to find the *plane of spirit*.

I have given you this message on death because of the conditions around my beloved Earth brethren today. I desire to bring peace to the hearts of all those who suffer loss by physical death by reiterating much that I may have told you before. I would *stress* the fact of the eternity of the Soul, which ever progresses onward and upward, with no separation from those who can raise themselves in consciousness to the realms of spirit by their knowledge of the Christ dwelling in the hearts of all our beloved human brethren.

Many questions are asked from time to time about the views held by the Higher Ones on the subject of *cremation*. It is said by some schools of thought on the Earth plane that the Soul lingers by the discarded physical body for some time after death, and therefore when cremation takes place the shock is very great to that Soul.

My reply to that question is that when once the Soul has left the discarded physical body it used during its Earthly pilgrimage, it has no more interest in what happens to that body. In fact, its desire would be to rise as quickly as it can away from the sphere of matter. The only condition which might induce it to remain near the Earth would be the intense grief of those loved ones it has left, and a desire to render service to them, yet being unable to do so, prevented by their grief.

It has been said there are earth-bound souls who linger for years, even hundreds of years around this planet. The White Brotherhood does not recognize this concept of the Soul, once it is freed from the trammels of the flesh,

having any desire to linger around the scene of its former Earth activities.

The separation of the Soul from the body is very quickly accomplished. There is always the Guardian Angel who is with the Soul to assist it in its journey. No Soul passes onward alone. Since the Guardian Angel comes to be with the Soul in the transition from the Earth to the realms of spirit, would it be conceivable that the Guardian Angel would want to hover around the Earth?

It does not matter to what depths of vice that Soul may have descended, the Guardian Angel draws near at the moment of transition. That is why often those who have led lives of utter depravity and sin — lives such as those who read these words might not be able to conceive of — at the last moment before the Soul is released, recognize the Guardian Angel or some loved one long-gone before, and call upon God as the transition is made.

With reference once more to cremation: you can place the physical body in Mother Earth, to which it returns; therefore nothing of that body is wasted. If you burn it, there is still no waste, as it returns to the elements. Therefore it does not matter in what manner it is disposed of.

May those who have dear ones they lose by physical death remember that intense grief and uncontrolled emotions will in some cases keep the Soul near the Earth in its eager but ineffectual desire to help, as love is a very strong tie, both in this Earth sphere and in the realms above it.

Remember, *there is no death*, and the beloved has merely passed through the open door to a much larger and fuller life elsewhere. Therefore, control grief and release your dear ones willingly, knowing that love is eternal and can therefore never die, and that though absent in the flesh they can still be with you in spirit. By tuning into higher vibrations in meditation, contact can be made with them and a wonderful reunion can thus take place.

It has always been the law of your Father God that Angels and the illumined Souls from higher realms should

minister to the children of Earth. You are never alone, even if unaware of the presence of those who are wiser and more loving than Man.

We say once more: *There is no death!* Nevertheless, death seems to be the enemy which robs you of those nearest and dearest to you. The fact of death looms before everyone. One day the Angel of Death will actually come! To many of you, my beloved, this is a fearsome thought which you keep in the background and say, "Let us eat, drink and be merry and make the most of life while it lasts." But, my brethren, to push away problems which should be faced, understood, and resolved is not the wisest nor the happiest way. Wise men and women are they who search for truth and understanding of the mystery of life and death — who search not only with the intellect but with hearts filled with love because they know and feel the Divine Presence.

Although you are surrounded by spheres of spiritual life to which loved ones have passed, because they are of a different rate of vibration from the physical, the physical senses are unable to receive contact. When you learn how to develop your inner senses and open the windows of your soul you will be able to register the vibrations of the spiritual worlds and make contact also with your own Guardian and Teachers.

We would bid you remember that all through the ages, in all the ancient faiths which were inspired by the wisdom of God, the visits of angelic messengers were recorded. To you who have studied your Bible this truth will be recognized. The symbol of Jacob's ladder, with Angels descending to minister to their Earth brethren and ascending to the Throne of God, is a symbol of Man's life, and shows that Man came from God and descended through the planes of Earth life, taking on the garments of the Earth plane — the Soul, the mental body, the astral body and the emotions; and lastly, the physical body. Because of the fact, my beloved, that Man became

so heavily clothed the vision of those spheres of light from which he came has faded from his memory.

Within the heart of each one lies the power, if you so wish, to ascend through those planes through which you have descended; but as you ascend the ladder on your return to God you take with you the harvest of your lives — not of one incarnation only, but the whole cycle of your Earth lives. When you thus return to the heart of your Creator you will be filled with glory and be in full consciousness of your fellowship with your Father God, of your Christhood.

Beloved, we would help you to understand what death symbolizes. To many, to most of you perhaps, death is something to be dreaded. The sorrows which accompany the death of the physical body are not due to the will of God, but are the creations of the earthly mind. When death enters your home remember that the arisen one has passed through a very beautiful experience, and has been born into the life of happiness he has earned, and is given the opportunity to learn and understand the reason for many things which perhaps perplexed him in life.

Death is an eternal symbol, and when you understand this you will no longer grieve when the Angel of Death draws near. You all know of the crucifixion of Jesus, the Christ. My beloved, we would tell each one that crucifixion awaits every Soul born on this Earth. Christ nailed upon the cross is a symbol. Death itself is a symbol of what actually takes place in the life of every man and woman. It is actually the death of the lower self. It is the passing through the ordeal of the destruction, the over-powering, of the self of Earth, and it is also the triumph of the higher, the Christ-Self.

The purpose of your life on Earth is this: that every living soul should become subservient to the Christ Spirit, and this brings about the ascension of that Soul into the spirit realms, into Heaven. Every Master, my beloved, has at some time walked the self-same path as that you are now walking, and the attainment of Mastership comes

through one way and one way only — by the path the beloved Master Jesus trod, and which all the saints and saviors throughout the history of the world have also trodden. It is the way of the spirit — the patient, gentle, humble, tranquil, loving way of life. This is the Way of which Jesus spoke when He said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." He did not mean Jesus, the person. He meant the God within, the inner voice, the divine spirit within every individual which directs the way of life for that Soul.

Christ was crucified — the lower self died, the body was laid in the sepulchre for three days. On the third day He rose again. In the Ancient Wisdom it was thus taught that the three days was a period of readjustment, a period of waiting after the Soul had overcome the lower self, before it was able to live again in full consciousness. The three days represented a time of perfect balancing between what is called "evil" and what is called "good". After the death of the lower self the Soul is able to see clearly the true aspects of good and evil, and the two become unified in the Soul because the Soul has attained perfect equilibrium, perfect Christhood, perfect sonship with God.

God, my dear ones, *lives* in mankind, both in the good and in the evil, and the great message mankind needs today is this: he must know that he is spirit, and that God dwells in him and in every man, and that Man, too, must live to glorify his Father God, and to glorify the physical body God has given him for his manifestation on the physical plane. Your work and our work, my beloved, is to awaken men who are sleeping, some the sleep of death. All must be awakened to the life and to the truth of the Christ Spirit in man.

When death draws near Angels always gather in the home of the loved one about to depart. You may think of the Angel of Death as an angel of darkness and terror, but you are wrong. The Angel of Death is like the Holy Mother, all love and tenderness, gentleness and beauty.

When a Soul receives the call from Earth to Heaven, loving preparation is made in the world of spirit for the reception of the soul. If people only could have their vision clear enough to see the reception which awaits their loved one they would never be sad at death; they would be happy — indeed more happy than when a child is born into life down on your Earth.

Angels encompass the one about to leave his or her physical body. The spirit about to be freed rises from the body through the head, rises as you can rise in your meditations, but without the dull pull you feel from the body left behind. The cord attached to the heart is severed, and then the spirit is free and borne on Angel's wings. Usually the soul-body, being rather denser than it will be later on, has to pass out through some open window or door, and is accompanied by Angels to its new home, where all is made ready for its reception.

Once there, the spirit is laid gently on a soft couch facing what you would call open windows, or a space in the room open to the air. The perfume of flowers from the garden of the home steals into the room. In the reception room or chamber where the spirit lies resting, those who love that dear one are waiting so that as soon as consciousness awakens the new arrival is greeted by someone beloved and familiar. There is *always* someone who loves waiting in the spirit world for those who pass on; no one journeys from the Earth to the world of spirit without meeting with a loving welcome, because every living Soul has some loved one in the world of spirit.

What of those left behind to mourn their loss? Angels are with them also, and bring to those left on Earth a spiritual food which can sustain and give them strength. So long as those who mourn can and will rise above self-pity and think only with tender love and rejoicing of the Soul which has passed into the Light, then such ones on Earth are fed by the light and love of God's Messengers. It is the materiality and shadow of the earth-mind which causes grief and pain. You prove this for

yourselves as you tune into the realms of light, when all burdens slip away.

When you are functioning in full consciousness in that higher world you will have no burdens; you will know only happiness, for you are in a state of happiness, and you will learn from this that Heaven is within the Soul.

The knowledge of eternal life and the assurance of its extension beyond death cannot be grounded on a demand for compensation for life's ills. But if there are other grounds for the immortal hope, the present world is but part of the scene, and but one act in the drama. Unavoidable ills, however grievous now, may still be insignificant "compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Even from death itself there is an appeal to God. Even the passing of the physical universe would leave His resources unimpaired. The physical environment, the network of human relations, the heritage of history, all these constitute the sphere in which God wills to meet with men, and is their sphere of opportunity and responsibility. This, my beloved brethren, is what is involved in the Incarnation: God's choice of human life in your world as the best medium for Man's self-revelation, Man's acceptance of it even at the point of pain, frustration and death. That, beloved, is the sacred meaning of the use of water and bread and wine in the Sacrament. The world is to be received as sacramental — as the means by which God offers Himself continually to men, that they may receive Him in thankfulness and dedication.

All men are sons of God, young in evolution, and so they are only tiny sparks of God, and yet they are His sons and daughters. The symbol of man's heart center is the golden sun, and the wings attached are the wings of his Soul, which, when he has learned to use them, will enable him to fly into other worlds. You all have the power to do this. Aspiration comes first, then prayer, and deep breathing. The next form of Soul development is serenity, quietness and tranquility.

We refer again to the soul's harvest. "Except a corn of wheat fall to the ground and die it cannot bear fruit." The corn of wheat falls into a particular ground where God wanted it to fall, and it has died. It was His seed, His planting. The seed dies and lies in the ground, but as a matter of course Life will follow — Life with its wonderful changes. God never makes mistakes, beloved brethren; the Husbandman does not waste His seed. In your own lives inspiration, unfailing faith, attendance to duty, and above all, love, will be as the seed or corn which dies, and then is brought forth in fulfillment in an ever-increasing measure.

We would repeat our teaching: The Soul of Man when he leaves this Earth will enter the environment which by his own acts he has created in his sojourn there. It is not possible, as certain ones teach, that repentance at the end of life guarantees perfect bliss in the world to which each one journeys. You must *earn* on your Earth journey that place of joy and peace to which all hope to go.

We would point an example. If a man or a woman lives a life that is impure, gives way to the lusts of the flesh, drinks too much, becomes degraded, and by example leads others astray, he or she will go to that place where the desires for all these things are intensified but cannot be fulfilled, and great will be the agony of that one. However, the time will come when recognition of all their failings and sins will be in their hearts and they will repent and long to rise to that place of beauty and peace where those they have known and loved now dwell.

There are schools of learning and opportunities for service ready for all. There is no idleness *here*. The newly released Soul needs help until it has become at home in its new abode. Little children find a mother's care, and they learn in schools as they do on Earth.

When the body dies, the Soul, being a counterpart of that body which has responded to worldly feelings and desires, will naturally retain these feelings, and therefore

will awake in a state very like the life just finished. My dear brethren, we would urge you all to live in accordance with the law of love, having patience, tolerance, unselfishness, humility, and so prepare the home of beauty that it will be ready for you when you have finished your Earthly life.

Enter the silence, beloved brethren, and go inward to the world of spirit, into that realm of beauty where Christ sitteth on His Father's right hand. In your inner vision walk in the garden where flowers bloom in all their beauty and fragrance, and where there is a Temple of Healing where all may enter and be welcome. You will meet there your Beloved Master, and you will know Him by the glorious light of His aura. You will be in at-one-ment with Him in the Garden of the Spirit, where fear cannot enter and where there is no pain and no suffering — where you can each surrender to the strength, the love and peace of that Heaven Land toward which each one is journeying.

During the time when your body lies asleep, my brethren, your Souls wander free and you meet and hold communion with those dear to you who have gone on before. The only difference between you and those who have passed on is that you can go only so far and no farther, because you are still attached to the Earth body, but you are with them and they with you. Keep all the lovely memories alive! Your loved ones are in a world of light and beauty. They are progressing and learning, they desire to follow the God-life, and they come to help you when you are together during your sleep.

*There is no death, no separation from your loved ones. Life is eternal and indestructible, and you live within it always. Eternity is NOW!*



*GRANT unto all Thy Children the knowledge of Thy Love for them, oh Father-God, and the way to the highest aspiration which will bring them freedom from fear and lead them to the Kingdom.*

*Amen.*

## VI

### FORGIVENESS

**I**t is often said, my dear ones, and with much evident truth, that today Man is not deeply concerned about his sins, and that therefore the doctrine of forgiveness may seem unimportant to him. Where the consciousness of sin is found, mankind has been made aware of its tragic failure to create conditions for a deeper spiritual life and the development of a character on the Christ principles. But this failure is, in the true sense, but the aggregate and the result of individual failures, which need forgiveness as the foundation for a better life.

It is a true intuition which has always placed the forgiveness of sins at the heart of what is known as the Christian message, for the Gospel is essentially a declaration about Man's relationship to God. The truth enshrined in the Gospel is a dynamic force which removes the barriers separating the human Soul from the Eternal Father.

The point of view of the Christian faith towards sin, whether individual or national, is primarily something committed against God. No conviction of sin, my beloved, has gone deeply enough which has not realized this great truth. It is the first step in that repentance which prepares the soul for the releasing experience of forgiveness.

You may think of forgiveness as something which means remission of punishment, as is seen in your courts today. Forgiveness has too often been associated with the necessity of avoiding unpleasant circumstances accruing to the individual through lack of it. But even if this may be regarded as part of the truth, it is not the important part. The *effect* of a man's sinfulness on him-

self and others cannot be blotted out by forgiveness, and the consequences of sin must be regarded as part of the sin itself.

But forgiveness goes far deeper than mere pardon: it includes release from a sense of guilt, a cleansed conscience, the restoration of a broken fellowship. It has also a future significance; it deals not only with the past; it sets the one who is forgiven on the path to higher things. It is thus essentially dynamic in its operation.

This subject of forgiveness is opportune today, my dear ones. We know how difficult it is for some of our human brethren to forget the horrors perpetrated in wars and strife, and to forgive those nations which were responsible. It must be done, however, or there can be no possibility of even a semblance of peaceful conditions anywhere.

The defeated nation, in the loss and humiliation following a war, suffers and writhes in the torment of frustration and broken hopes; her illusions of greatness and expansion trodden in the mire of despair, her leaders often false to those who trusted them. She is reaping as she has sown. Surely as perfect justice — God's justice — rules the world, this must be true.

You, my dear ones, who have knowledge and spiritual insight, you who know that the breaking of the laws of brotherhood brings suffering and sorrow, you can forgive even as you hope for forgiveness of your own individual sins. Pray for the regeneration of the broken countries, many of whose sons have had and will have again true greatness in the creative urge for a new civilization, for a new beauty in human life, for a realization of their Father God, and of the brotherhood of all mankind. I leave this for your meditation, my dear ones.

Your prayers individually, and in your Prayer and Healing Groups, may have a more far-reaching effect than you realize, for the Light goes forth ever more powerfully with each succeeding day you meet together, or pray alone in your own chambers.

With the thought of *forgiveness* comes naturally the corollary of charity. Charity is spoken of as the gift of God's Spirit, and the need for this gift is emphasized, not only by the assertion that without it all Man's best efforts are worthless, but goes even further: that which seems to be alive has the *appearance* of life only and lacks its reality.

But if charity is a gift of God, it is available for all and needs only to be received and used. It would be a mistake, my beloved, to think that such a quality can be received merely as a vessel receives water — it is no passive acceptance that is necessary. The very capacity to receive it is also the gift of God, though in an equally true sense human effort is demanded. All of God's gifts have this two-fold aspect.

In your Bible you will read St. Paul's rendering of charity (or love) which may seem to set an impossibly lofty standard, far beyond the reach of ordinary human nature, and so it would be if the attainment depended solely upon human effort, my dear ones.

But if love is the gift of God, the possession of which depends rather upon a universal receptivity than on Man's innate qualities, there is hope even for those who are most conscious of failure and have fallen into a state of profound distrust of themselves.

All of a man's actions derive their essential and true quality, and their highest potency, from the spirit out of which they spring. It is a matter of common experience that an act which in one person would be generous, in another might be mere condescension or egotism. The moral value of every human action is to be tested by whether or not it is an expression of love.

"If I have not love" says the Apostle, "I am nothing." No matter how many gifts of intellect, nor how strong a faith, without this supreme gift, life is lacking an adequate foundation for our beloved human brethren. To become receptive of this great gift demands more than an occasional or casual prayer for it. It is the one thing

needful, the one virtue that never faileth; it must be sought with ever-increasing earnestness and determination.

The perfection of love indeed may ever be beyond the grasp of the disciple of the Beloved Master, but increasingly he may become the living expression of that spirit which finds in Jesus its perfect embodiment.

Among the last words uttered by Jesus were "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." This is the remission of sins, though in the orthodox church the actual meaning is misunderstood. The Spirit of the Christ instills divine love into the heart, a love so strong that it enables the recipient to forgive his enemies. Thus does the Spirit of Christ indeed cleanse the soul of sin. We therefore repeat: *Divine Love active in any soul, can give that soul power to remit sin or karmic debts. Open your Souls, beloved brethren, to that Love; express it in your daily life and be blessed.*



*"Lord of Eternal Life whose every breath  
Devises birth and overshadows death,  
Without whose Being nothing comes to be,  
Help me to tread, Lord, constantly with Thee.*

*"Be Thou in me the answer to men's needs,  
Deeper than words, more durable than deeds;  
Lord, in my heart, let light and beauty shine  
That men may see Thy life transcending mine."*

## VII

### INITIATIONS

**T**HREE are many degrees of initiations and Initiates. Any Soul who has passed through any form of initiation into the soul planes becomes an Initiate. As an example: immediately when a candidate enters a Masonic Lodge and passes through his first degree he becomes an Initiate of humble degree. A Soul may in time pass through many forms of initiation, but we would describe a Soul who has been truly baptised in the waters of the purifying, life-giving Christ Spirit, as one who has been accepted into the Holy of Holies.

Others, although initiated into many planes, are only in the outer courts. Disciples are those who have had their feet bathed and so are made clean for the Path; but Initiates in the real sense of the word are those who have entered the Sacred Mysteries.

I desire to give in this message the same teaching on the Water Initiation as that which has been given to other groups of the incarnate White Brotherhood in London and elsewhere.

To understand the Water Initiation, my dear Earth brethren, think of the one who passes this test as being stripped of the love for and the attachment to all material possessions. That is the first step. When confronted with this mighty test most candidates would shrink perhaps from the thought that they could accept a complete renunciation of self, of all possessions, and undergo this union of the naked soul with the pure inflow of water of spirit — a complete baptism and purification. This is indeed the lonely path, not according to your earthly way of thinking, but the lonely path of the spirit.

It is called the "Water Initiation" because the element water symbolizes the emotions and the desires of Man. These desires can be selfish and greedy and low, gradually ebbing until the Soul responds without cessation to the Master Spirit, the Christ Spirit.

Think of a Soul raised into this mystical union with the Son, the Christ. Water is the focal point, the rod of power, the magnet through which the Christ Rays are projected.

As the Soul responds it commences to grow strong and receive the power which the Christian Church calls the Holy Ghost — the third aspect of the Holy Trinity of Wisdom, Love and Power, each of which contains the other two, so there is a Three-in-One and a One-in-Three. Wisdom is Love and also Power; Power is Love and also Wisdom; Love is both Wisdom and Power; these three are inseparable.

The spirit of Man receives into his consciousness the Holy Trinity as he strives to respond to the All-Good. When this comes, the disciple is able to help others on the path. Therefore, beloved, open your hearts and respond to all that is true, good and beautiful, and then you are qualifying for passing the test on the Water Initiation. This means your souls will receive the Holy Ghost, the gift which will enable you to heal the sick, comfort those who sorrow, feed those who are hungry and nourish them on the inner planes. All who work on the inner planes may thus become aware of the needs of their brethren on the outer plane. The spiritual and physical planes of life must blend and work in perfect harmony. This is the esoteric interpretation of the descent of the Holy Spirit of the Trinity of God. When the Holy Spirit is working in you it is the White Light which gives you the power to heal, to comfort, to bless and to nourish your brother man.

There is a certain initiation through which each Soul must at some time pass to know that God permeates all matter, all substance — that what appears to be solid

matter is really charged with divine energy and light. You are held in bodily bondage, you are enslaved by earthly conditions, but this initiation teaches the Soul to free itself. This can be likened to crucifixion and death — but you know, my brethren, there is no death; neither soul nor body can die. Your earth body appears to be dead but all the particles which composed that body still live, still continue in another form, much as the soul continues its existence apart from the body, and eventually, after a stage of cleansing, returns to its true home — which is in a body of Light.

When you read the *Revelation* of St. John, my dear ones, you cannot fail to realize the symbolism contained therein. If you can read with the true understanding which comes from your own soul, you will grasp the significance of many things which now elude you, and the first will be the fact that St. John was undergoing a spiritual initiation. There are many interpretations of the *Book of Revelation*. Many great mysteries are contained within its pages, but as you evolve in spirit and in mind so will these mysteries be revealed to you within your own Holy of Holies. St. John does not refer to the eternal aspects in his teachings, but to the many initiations through which the Soul of Man must pass until he reaches the Ultimate — the Eternal.

Many may ask, "What is the meaning of initiation?" I would reply that initiation is an unfoldment, an expansion of consciousness, an inner spiritual vision opening within the Soul, and being brought forth into the daily life, my beloved.

These initiations can be experienced in many ways in your daily life in the solving of problems which perplex and disturb you from time to time. You seek the answer in meditation perhaps, but no answer comes. Then you may be on a hilltop watching the rising of the sun in the glory of the morning, you may be listening to some uplifting, inspiring discourse, or you may even be partaking in some conversation, when suddenly like a flash of

light the answer comes to you — and thankfulness floods your whole being. You will in this way understand many other problems which confront you, and a great expansion of consciousness and an extended internal vision will be yours, and also a clearer and wider understanding of life. This is what I mean when I say you can have initiations in your daily life.

There are many initiations; some may have to do with certain spiritual work undertaken, some with ceremonies to be undergone before initiation into a Masonic Lodge. At these times something happens to your Soul. Certain spiritual powers help to quicken the life forces in your soul-body — and this, again, can cause a great flash of enlightenment to come to you.

In the ancient Mystery Schools of Egypt, the neophyte was tested to the very limit of his endurance. Then came a time when he would feel all was lost, and that he had lost even God; yet something within, like a glimmer of light, urged him to hold fast to God and to God's love. And, at that same moment, initiation opened up to him. That very testing to the extreme degree caused the soul to respond to the Light of the Son of God, of Christ. His Spirit dwelt upon the Soul of the neophyte who responded to the Light, and in this way initiation took place.

Initiation, my beloved, is an expansion of consciousness to a realization of the allness and completeness and universality of God's Love. That expansion, or initiation can only come when you can respond to the Light of Christ and hold fast, no matter if the Earth as you know it is dashed to pieces — even if it seems all you have worked and stood for, all you believe and hope, crashes and crumbles about you. Now is the very limit of your test, and your initiation into the Light is at hand.

Not long now, my beloved brethren; for those who have been pushed to the very last degree of endurance the Light will surely break, and they will be assured that what they stood for and held to in their faith is indeed the Eternal Truth.

St. John makes reference to the "two witnesses" — to whom does he refer? Moses and Elias? This may be so, and yet there may be a much deeper esoteric meaning. Divine revelations do not as a rule concern personalities, but deal with the Soul or great Cosmic truths. Twice a reference is made to the two who prophesy, and the two pillars of the temple. What is the temple to which the Apostle refers? Meditate on this, my dear ones, and according to your own stage of evolution will the answer come to you.

The "temple" can be man's own body, the abode of the Divine Spirit. The body should always be kept in perfect health insofar as it is possible — and this, I would say, is greatly helped by an understanding of breathing — that magical essence which controls the laws governing health.

The two pillars which support man's being are the *heart*, the center of life and of wisdom, and the *mind*, which is the center of power, of energy and will, and the Keystone is Christ, which forms the Arch into the Temple, into the Holy of Holies.

It is possible to liken the two pillars in the temple to the dual soul, or the dual spirit — male and female, mother and father — dual aspects of God; and when these two are wedded then there is that perfect balance between heart and mind. And when there is that perfect mystical marriage, from that union is born a child called "the blessed and holy Child of God" — the indwelling Christ. This, we would suggest, is the esoteric interpretation of the Immaculate Conception, which must take place in each soul.

My dear ones, we want you to understand that spiritual truths can have many interpretations and not one alone. Do not let your mentality be in any degree limited, and know that there can be many aspects of truth. Truth is a jewel with many facets, as has a diamond or a ruby. All truth, in whatever guise it may come to you, is an expression of the one SUPREME Truth. In the Six-

pointed Star, which consists of two interwoven triangles, you can see the symbol of the mystical marriage — the perfect blending of the dual aspects of life.

We hear much being talked about with reference to initiation. Very few who dwell on the Earth-plane really understand what initiation actually means, and they teach it as to their conception of it, which is very often confusing and fraught with much uncertainty in the mind of the student.

I would explain what we of the White Brotherhood mean by initiation. It is an expansion of consciousness, a definite reception by the soul — by the etheric centers — a definite response of a spiritual quality, and a realization of a life superior to anything yet attained.

There are many souls today who are preparing for a first initiation. Some may already have passed through its portals and yet be unaware in this present-day life of that experience. But those who can see the etheric body, and the centers of power and soul force within, can see whether an initiation has been taken in the past, because the experience is plainly to be seen in the illumination of that center, and by the brightness and radiance surrounding it.

There are also many today having no knowledge of occult science who yet have passed through an initiation, and it is possible this knowledge may have been purposely withheld.

Anyhow, do not let this thought perturb you, my brethren. Walk along the path you see before you, and remember there is only one thing that matters — *your service to humanity*. There are many paths naturally open to you, but you must acquire unity of thought and the universal outlook, recognizing good in all its aspects.

Work selflessly to assist humanity on the path of Light, because the crux of everything is selfless service, love for your brother man, and a universal outlook. When once you have acquired these, then you are qualified for a first initiation.

In your Bible there is much mystical teaching which is understood only by the very few. We would give certain teaching of the Great White Brotherhood in their Lodge in the mountains of the Himalayas and in other Lodges: You read in the Gospel of St. John how Jesus taught His disciples, and after a period of eight days had passed, He took Peter and James and John up into a mountain to pray. As He prayed His face changed and became radiant, and His garment was white and glistening. We call your attention to the "eight days" because eight is the number of initiation. This is the number of the planet Saturn, the great Initiator.

The disciples were raised in consciousness above the level of the Earth. The Master Jesus was there initiated into the fire — or Divine Love — consciousness. There are mystics who have meditated upon the sun, the source of all life. They also contemplated the Spiritual Sun and the Glory of the Father and have written of the wondrous experience they had. A great change came to them as a flash of lightning through the body. You can have a similar experience, my brethren, when illumination comes to your soul — but only when that soul is prepared to receive it.

The Fire Initiation is the one preceding the last one, which is that of Crucifixion, when all that is of the Earth — self-gratification, judgment of others, unkindness, lack of truth, intolerance and lack of love to the neighbor — will vanish and the Soul rise triumphant and in full mastery over the self.

Jesus chose as His companions Peter and James and John because those three represented Faith, Hope and Love. Faith is will, Hope is wisdom, and Love is activity — service. These three are symbols of attributes that everyone seeking initiation must attain.

When Jesus took the Water Initiation at His baptism, the Voice of God spake from the heavens: "Thou art My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased." Jesus had done well, and His Father was satisfied. Later when

He took the Fire Initiation, and the Voice from heaven said "Hear Him!" Jesus received divine authority and became the channel through whom the divine fire and power could flow in the highest degree.

This experience can come to each one who wills to tread the path of spiritual unfoldment and attainment. As you pass into this state of divine illumination, every center of your soul-body becomes radiant. The light rises and flashes fire, and the Initiate becomes clothed with the Sun. He then receives power to comfort those who sorrow, to heal the sick, and to give wisdom and knowledge where needed — to touch the eyes of the blind so they can see the vision of Truth.

The Disciples of Jesus of Nazareth were the Initiates of that age. When the Master called the Disciples together, He frequently taught them from some mountain height. The Words of Wisdom could be understood only by the initiated — *not* by the multitude. So also the message given from the World of Spirit over a period of years has been spoken not to the mass of humanity, who cannot yet understand the inner truths, but to the few who were chosen, even as the Disciples were called in those far-off days, and as disciples have been and will be called yet throughout the ages.

Always the few will be called and initiated into the inner truths. You who are disciples of Christ, called to the service of Christ, are being tested today. It *must* be so. All those who endeavor to follow the spiritual life, all those — whether they call themselves orthodox Christians, Theosophists, or by any other name — are facing their tests. Their character, their metal, is being tried out. *Many* are called, *few* chosen. In other words, few pass the test of endurance and courage and confidence in the omnipotence of God.

The supreme moments of soul experiences which come to the Initiate cannot be expressed. They break through language and escape, because language is adjusted to conditions of everyday life and so is unequal to anything

that transcends these. Yet the joy unspeakable, the elevation and glory of such moments demand expression, since without this the truth they convey could only be preserved at the moment received. Therefore a new language is sought which is to communicate the incommutable. As such, mankind resorts to symbol, metaphor or tone of awe. But, beloved brethren, beyond these there is a language that consists of the absence of either speech or gesture, that is the Voice of the Silence itself when men are still and know they are with God.

In the Silence the center of the Soul can assert its mastery over the impulses and forces that range at large on the circumference, and weld them into a whole. Fresh insights become possible, as purposes that have lain submerged for long beneath the preoccupations of daily life, rise to command attention and to take over and direct the personality.

Silence — that hallmark of the Initiate — need not and should not be empty; it provides opportunity for meditation, for a review of the past, and for the making of new resolves for the future. Indeed, few things would minister more to the inner renewal that Western civilization needs than to borrow from the East its practice of meditation and entering the Silence, leaving no day to pass without its moments of quiet withdrawal. The teachings of the Brotherhood have always stressed the necessity of meditation, to go within to that place of stillness and to "know that I AM GOD."

Silence is a means by which the Soul can re-establish its contact with the unseen and eternal world that is its true home. In the ancient temples the one adequate symbol of the Divine Presence was an innermost and empty Shrine in which entrance was permitted but once a year, and then for one priest only. It kept before the consciousness of the people the truth that if Man's life in the world is ever to be what it is meant to be — a form of service unto God — it can be this only as at the heart of it there is constant recollection in wonder, in grati-

tude, and in reverence too deep for words of His goodness and love to us all.

There is no human life, my brethren — and certainly this must be true of the life of every Initiate — that cannot be organized on the same pattern, with a Shrine at the center where noise and clamor are not permitted to enter, and where the only word uttered is the worshipper's "Speak, Lord, for Thy Servant heareth." What happens then may change the whole life, if not its outward course, then its quality; and where such experiences are shared the deepest of all fellowships result, since Soul has met with Soul in the presence of God.

Temptations to the Initiate take many forms. There are those Souls who desire to become teachers, which is very often a form of self-glorification and also of self-gratification. Glamor may come, adulration, and the clamor of the crowd suffocates and stifles the expanding Soul limiting its spiritual evolution and growth. It may then become arrogant, puffed up with pride, forgetting that the humble soul, lingering in the quiet and hidden places, is the one prepared for the true work of the New Age.

There are few Earth teachers, beloved, who can maintain the humility and simplicity necessary to enable them to give the *best* — which comes from the highest aspect of the Soul, and which blesses the one who gives and those who receive.

#### MEDITATION

Enter into the peace of the Lodge within your own heart, or the Lodge of the Brotherhood of Light, and receive that Cosmic Life Force which is released by the Brotherhood discarnate who always draw near to help when you contact them in prayer and meditation.

We would have you visualize a pure white alabaster Temple, beloved brethren, simple and beautiful to behold, standing amidst undulating hills and towering pine

trees which guard it as sentinels in the silence. The temple is foursquare and is open to God's boundless blue above.

In this Temple there is a soft light, within which merge gold, rose and blue. A purple glow surrounds the Altar where red roses provide the incense which rises to the Throne in the Heavens.

Kneel before this Altar and behold the radiant Figure of the Christ before you as He raises His hands in healing and blessing. See Him, and feel the peace and perfect serenity which flows from Him.

Outside of the Temple there is a clear pool of translucent water with rays of the sun blessing the flowers surrounding it. As you leave the Temple kneel down and gaze into this pool. It is the Pool of Truth, and as you gaze you will know your weaknesses and your faults of commission and omission; the Path will open before you, and the great Truth will be revealed.

As you visualize, beloved brethren, as you meditate on what we have given to you, you will in time *see* exactly the scene we have described, and you will recognize the purpose thereof when you feel the uplifting of your hearts in prayer.

Perfect peace will be yours when you can feel sure that Jesus the Christ Himself is walking once more upon the Earth, for this will begin a period of true peace, of triumph for all humanity. You must work together with us, your discarnate Brethren, for the *true* peace of Christ upon Earth.

## VIII

### HIDDEN BLESSINGS IN SUFFERING

SUFFERING, in whatever form it takes, may be purifying and redemptive. It may become a means of a clearer insight concerning conditions as they occur. But the outcome of suffering must depend on *how* it is accepted or whether there is rebellion against it; whether it is regarded as an experience out of which good may come or as that which is wholly evil.

My brethren, the corporate suffering of the world is also the suffering of the individuals. Whatever its cause, suffering may be regarded as a part of the lesson each one must learn in some incarnation before he can come to full understanding of every condition upon his life path, in his journey toward the Highest, or Ultimate.

I would say to each one, if you cannot alter the situation, it is wiser to accept it, not in a spirit of resignation which is passive response but with that willing cooperation which determines to use it as a means of good. You can then see in your suffering — in your difficulties — the opportunity to gain strength of character, and the stimulating experience of triumphing over them.

If the suffering of the beloved Master was a victory, then, beloved, you may find in all the world's suffering today, and your own share in it, a cleansing experience which by your Father's help may be transmuted into a means of spiritual renewal. We say again: Have faith, have courage, let the light of Christ shine through all your perplexities and anxieties, and know that through each experience will come a quickening and renewal of power; and so a great peace will come to each one.

The life of each one moves through death to resurrection. Your Christian faith has always seen in the process of the life, death and resurrection of the Master Jesus a prophecy of Christian life in Him. As He was born, so in Him mankind is reborn; as His physical body died, so in Him men die to sin; as He rose again, so in Him men rise spiritually to new life; and as He ascended so mankind seeks things above, where Christ sitteth on His Father's right hand.

Beloved, in the Temple of God within each one of you, the birth, life, sufferings, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus can be recognized by each one as the real state of his or her own soul which has followed Jesus, and in this way the whole story of the Incarnation repeats itself in individual experience. To each Initiate, life's experience is interpreted in the light of the life-history of Jesus the Christ. Life in Him is no meaningless chaos, but a progress through physical death to a great fulfillment. Hope is no delusion, my brethren, for it "maketh not ashamed."

To so many of our dear ones life suffers from a dreadful doubt about the possibility of escape from irretrievable disaster. In multitudes of thoughtful minds hope lies buried and there only survives a determination to carry on, which tends to become a negation of spiritual values. That which can save mankind from complete collapse of faith and hope is the assurance that out of the worst comes the best; out of defeat, victory; out of death, life. We would ask each one to meditate on these words of ours so that complete understanding may come and light may shine forth out of the darkness surrounding each life on the material plane today. Conditions will change, my brethren, and soon you will see the birth of the Christ Consciousness, the birth of love and of brotherhood in the hearts of men all over the world.

Always remember this, my dearly loved brethren, and may our words bring understanding to your hearts and

help to solve the problems which perplex so many in this present day of your Earth lives.

Sometimes our Earth brethren ask: "What is the use of struggling and striving when despite it all there is so much suffering and desolation in the world?"

Life is governed by law; each one is in exactly the place and in the circumstances whereby his Soul can attain the necessary development it needs. You may say: "This cannot be!" So speaks the outer self, the mortal mind, but the real Self, the Divine urge, knows what you need. Think, my dear ones, of the God-urge as *a radiant Light* ever guiding your Soul on the Path. Not a moment of your time should be wasted. It does not matter what is happening on the outer planes, but only your relationship from within to your fellow-men and to God — your inner reaction to those circumstances — is the all-important thing and is actually a form of initiation through which you are passing daily.

Life is worth while, very worth while, hard and bitter though it may seem. Considering what you are learning, what you are absorbing, it is *indeed* worth while. Remember, initiations occur again and yet again, much as does reincarnation, rebirth — a coming back to learn the lessons not quite perfected. There can be no slipshod methods, my dear ones, in your spiritual training. If you construct a temple or any great building, you must have every stone perfect. It is just a question of continual perfecting. Never look back and feel sorry for yourselves because that is a sheer waste of time; there is no escape. Never think, either, how much better you could build if you had someone else's bricks. On the Earth plane you play with toys, but when you become men you put away childish things. You thus find courage, and joy in courage.

In many places of worship throughout your world, my dear ones, it is customary to call God merciful; but surely it is equally right to call Him merciless. You praise and thank Him for all the good things of life, and it would therefore be logical to thank Him also for the adverse

conditions and the unpleasant happenings that must come to each one in the course of this life. Perhaps it would be wiser therefore to cease ascribing either to God, but recognize the true source — which is in *yourselves*, both the pleasant and the unpleasant.

Most people who ask for Divine Blessing usually ask for it as it relates to material needs or worldly advantages, and they do not recognize that the Divine Blessing may be sent through physical misfortunes, sorrows and worldly loss as well as through more agreeable ways. If you think earnestly about all that has happened you may see how good comes out of apparent evil. All who suffer today are those who are the Seekers of tomorrow.

When the heart does not open to the Highest, it may by certain events be broken open to let God enter in. When a life has lost its way and wanders in a maze of uncertainty the ego may need to suffer, because it is only when the rule of the self fails that a more divine rule takes its place.

The method of attraction, one to another, and also of human development, involves the use of suffering, either physical, mental or spiritual. But remember, my brethren, the evils and pains of life have only a passing existence and are aligned to the good and the joy of life. Their existence is eventually controlled by the Divine Laws and used for a divine universal outworking. How could any Universe come into being without both good and evil, light and darkness, joy and sorrow coming with it? If you ask for a painless existence, then you surely ask for a joyless one. The ebb and flow between joy and anguish, possession and loss, gives to you a sense of values you could not attain in any other way. It is only by experience that the Soul gains the needed balance which helps to form a just estimate of life on Earth, a truer knowledge of its transiency, and in this way will bring you closer to the consciousness of spiritual life.

Remember that the original Power behind the whole universe is Good in the highest sense. If you look behind

the scene of mortal life you will see that the beneficent rule and love of God, your Father, has never been dethroned. Pain and sorrow do not represent the whole truth of this Earth life. Pain can be likened to *bliss* lost for a while; sorrow is *peace* obscured for a time; Love will one day bring harmony to the world's tumult; Light will pour forth into the darkest places. There is an infinite Wisdom in God's Great Plan which tumult and unrest may hide for a time but which can never be obliterated.

Sometimes when great suffering comes — physical or mental — to our beloved human brethren it is a source of amazement both to themselves and to those with them how unexpected stores of strength are given which brings them peace within themselves and an inner security which has been a revelation of character and an experience of God. In many an emergency in this time of distress upon the Earth those who have passed through the utmost pain and terror have found at the critical moment a quietness of spirit which has sustained them. And, strange as it may seem, such peace has come, not only in the suffering, but by means of it. The very experience of suffering has become a source of strength.

Suffering may in some cases embitter, it may lead to loss of faith, hope and courage; for its effect upon the character will depend upon the spirit in which it is accepted. If it is seen as an opportunity to learn some of life's most valuable lessons, or regarded as a part of life's experience which cannot be avoided, and therefore accepted without complaint or bitterness, then suffering becomes of great value to the Soul.

Peace, my beloved, is not the absence of struggle, but *inner peace* is the essential of all creative struggle; and this is true whether a man is seeking to achieve the conquest of self, or the conquest of evil in the outer world. For peace means harmony and integration, and the personality which is achieving this is overcoming the weakness which arises out of disunity; its energies are not dissi-

pated by inward division and strife. What is true for an individual is true for a nation and for the whole world.

The discarnate Guardians and Teachers look down upon the Earth as upon a battlefield. They see not so much the outer life and thought — not the uniform of the soldier in conflict with his fellow — but underneath. They see the Soul aflame; they understand the sorrows and the human weaknesses of each Soul. They know that this vast throng thrust into battle will emerge in the course of evolution purified, strengthened, victorious over all the difficulties and conflicts of Earth life. Therefore, take the longer view, my beloved brethren, and you will thus open your own hearts to this understanding also.

The tragedies of your times, my dear ones, might well harden mankind and dry up the springs of compassion and love. Such a danger is ever there. But these tragedies may also bring men together in a fruitful unity and reveal, even if they do not create, a spirit of kindliness and generosity and mutual service which will thus fulfill the teaching of the Beloved Master, which has its source in the Spirit of God.

So remember, my dear ones, peace may come to you if you understand how to draw upon the fount of your own inner strength, and recognize the value of all life's lessons however hard they may be.

My beloved, you are looking toward the Golden City, and you climb the steep mountain path with faltering feet, and sometimes you feel that the struggle is useless, that you can never attain to the highest peak anyhow. We would encourage each one of you, my beloved, and say the more difficult the way is to overcome, the greater will be the eventual attainment and reward.

Never, therefore, be discouraged, but struggle on ever upward, and the glories of the Golden City will soon dawn before your eyes, and then great will be your joy in the fact that you have fought the good fight and won the victory over self.

So many suffer today spiritually, mentally and physi-

ally, more perhaps than ever before in the Earth's history, because never before have conditions been as they are today. Think, my beloved, of the suffering of Jesus! Does its challenging message still speak to mankind in the midst of their apparent inability to stem the tide of disaster which once more seems to be threatening the whole of human life? If in the life of Jesus the nature of the Eternal Father is shown forth, then in some mysterious way, beyond your human comprehension, God shares Man's sorrows as a human father shares the suffering of his children.

Meditate, beloved brethren, on the discovery of the nature of soul and spirit, and then illumination will come to you. Gather together in your Soul that which will be most precious in the land to which you will be newcomers one day. The seers who have known not only life but death say that what you think of last on Earth is the starting point of life in that other world.

You cannot learn Truth from any source other than that which comes to each one in the upliftment of the whole self to God and the consciousness of His Presence in your daily life. Build a house of the spirit, a house of love furnished with kindness, the beams and rafters built of the forgiveness always necessary in each human life.

Seek to be truly united in knowledge, love and service with all beings, and thus you will realize yourself as you are in the all-pervading God, which is the essence of goodness.



*INFINITE Love, our Father: We pray that Thy Children may be responsive to Thy Wisdom and to the Rays of Love which flow forth to them from Thee. May the heart of each one open like a flower in the sunlight. May they in the silence of the Spirit make contact with all that is beautiful, true and of good report in Thy Kingdom of love and of peace.*

*Give, we pray Thee, to each one understanding of the needs of others, and may they be thankful for their creation, preservation, and for all the joys and blessings of this Earth-life. May they, through gratitude for even the lessons of suffering, prepare for the life in the world to come, to which each one is journeying.*

*Bless each one, and give each Thy Peace. Amen.*

## IX

### TECHNIQUES OF SPIRITUAL HEALING

TODAY it is becoming increasingly obvious to men on Earth that what seems to be illness of the body has its roots in the illness of the mind and soul. Those, however, whose hearts are filled with a confident trust in God the Father have a positive defense against the anxieties, frustrations and tensions so potent in undermining physical health.

The Disciple Luke was by training and profession a doctor, and this shows in the compassionate, warmly human note which pervades his writings. St. Luke can be regarded as showing the close association which has always existed between the followers of the Christ teachings and the practical care of the sick. If you read carefully in the Gospel narratives you cannot fail to be struck by the miracles of healing as recorded by St. Luke, and many feel that is the key to his teachings.

It would be a good thing indeed, beloved, if the churches of every faith were more centered on spiritual healing, because where it is used great and beneficial results have been widely noted. The warm, mutually trustful relationship which has been traditional in the Western countries between doctor and patient — and this refers also to the mental and spiritual healing — is in the last analysis the fruit of the Christian doctrine of the dignity of Man. This is the basic belief of those who follow the teachings of Jesus that charity, or love, is the crown of all virtues.

St. Luke has been adopted by doctors and nurses as the patron of their respective professions. Both clergy and medical men can draw inspiration from the "Beloved Physician," who was a physician of the soul as well as

of the body. But in the various illnesses which affect the human body it must be remembered that the Soul, before it returns again to birth, either to your Earth or to some other realm of being, *chooses its own environment*. This may be in a suffering, or crippled body, or with a weak mental intellect — for even in the latter condition the Soul learns many lessons during its Earth journey. Therefore, my brethren, if healing does not take place it may well be because that is the path chosen by the Soul by which to work out past karma or to learn a lesson of patience, humility, and a trust in God's Love which, no matter what conditions are present, will never fail them.

Many are those who object that much suffering misses its purpose because it does not carry its lesson with it to the surface; that a punishment which is not recognized and understood in relation to its cause as such loses its moral effect and defeats its purpose. This criticism is especially applied to the deferred consequences of acts done in previous incarnations. This is a criticism which fails to remember that all who resent having to pay for the mistaken acts done in former lives — about which nothing is now consciously known, and therefore the payment seems unjust — will always accept without question the advantages and benefits which come from the right acts done in those same lives.

What is the core, the underlying secret behind true spiritual healing? It is not easy to set forth in words, since it is more in the nature of a transcendental experience which comes upon the Soul, which quickens it, or awakens it to knowledge of itself. Nevertheless, I must attempt a definition of spiritual healing for you. Some whose inner experiences have given them a knowledge of such healing will read between the lines and understand, for it will deal with the secret and the core of all real healing, making use of the word "healing" in its broadest and truest sense; for such healing is not just a matter of the removal of symptoms and pains from some locality in the body; this is incidental. Healing is more even than

the regaining of strength after illness, the restoration of physical health. In the broad sense many a healthy man or woman — "healthy" meaning wholeness of body — can be very sick in his or her outlook, habits, modes of expression, opinions, habitual thinking and feeling, in mind and life generally. Sooner or later this sort of ill health will bring about bodily illness; nothing is more certain. Therefore, any mode of healing — spiritual or otherwise — which heals only the body and leaves a mind sick still falls short of the true healing. I shall try to define what true healing might be.

"For sickness cometh from afar." We may think otherwise; we may not admit that this damaged arm, this erratic digestion, this rheumatism, or any other complaint, arose because of something we did, or left undone, which was rash or unwise. Or we may declare ourselves to be the victim of circumstance or accident. "Had that particular car not dashed around that particular corner at that particular moment," we say, "we would have escaped. In any case *we* were not to blame for the accident which occurred to *us*!"

Can we be sure, even about accidents? Can we be sure at all about illnesses? Those germs, for instance, which have attacked and invaded us brought us very low — was this purely bad luck? We live out our lives among hordes of germs, but only when our resistance is lowered do we succumb to "attack". The fundamental issue, then, was not the germ but the fact of our lowered resistance. How did that come about? Think carefully and long. Might not prolonged anxiety, stress and worry have caused it? How then did these originate? Well, because we let ourselves get into that way of negative thinking and feeling. Otherwise, had we been stronger and tried harder, we might have retained our equilibrium.

Little by little we begin to trace the origin of our complaint back and back, even to childhood; back and back to some fault or defect of character which we brought with us when we came to Earth, or which was instilled

into us at an early age; back and back finally to *ourselves* in some way — yes, to *ourselves*. Why, even that accident might not have happened had we not been too *habitually* hasty!

How, then, did such impatient habits arise? Why did we ever begin to foster them and still continue to do so? Were they self-begotten in the first place and later grew upon us unnoticed? Have we not, because of this habit, often "tempted Providence" and gotten away unscathed? Might not this have been the time when we were due to reap the harvest from the habit? By such self-scrutiny, my brethren, little by little the haze thins and reveals something about ourselves that we did not know.

The first step toward healing is self-analysis. The Master Healer said: "Physician, heal thyself". Socrates said: "Know thyself." As you gradually come to "know yourself" through painful, persistent, conscientious, honest seeking, you will also come to feel a desire to correct your inner disharmonies — those things which are out of step with the rhythm of God's Universal Whole. With the burning of such understanding and desire you will seek, through the help of Our Father, to exchange all that is negative for the goodness of all that is positive. God will work with you, guiding the direction of your mind to understanding — teaching you ever more of your individual inner healing, and guiding you toward achievement sufficient that you may serve in helping others with analysis and healing.

There are those dwelling on Earth today who have the gift of healing not only the physical body but the mind. It is a great gift, beloved, and one that cannot be neglected by anyone who is blessed with it. It is indeed God's work in both aspects of human need.

The body can be healed by perfect relaxation and harmonious conditions, together with the laying on of hands by the healer, but for healing on the mental side great understanding of all the underlying causes is necessary — particularly if these causes are on the spiritual

plane. Perfect attunement between healer and patient is also necessary to bring about a cure, and this will be permanent only when accompanied by faith, prayer and thanksgiving.

The gift of healing is by far the most important gift one may possess. It is a spiritual gift, and is outside the range of anything of a psychic nature, which so frequently comes from a nearby astral plane, bringing sorrow and disillusionment to those relying on it.

Cherish the gift of healing if you possess it, my dear ones. Then you can help your brethren in the physical or mental distress for which they seek your aid, for you will have the power of relieving the tensions which obstruct the divine flow of life in body and mind, thus restoring the harmony and peace required for a perfect healing.

To those of you reading this who are being directed along the "path of healing" service, I would speak a few words. In approaching your patient watch closely for any signs of disharmony. In the expression of the mental outlook, in conversation, you will trace the weak spot in the Soul. In healing you must maintain that spirit of control and quiet confidence in the Christ within yourself, remembering that *in your heart center* dwells the King, He Who is the perfect Physician, even God. It is most important that all who would heal remain aware of this. You must concentrate your whole thought on God, the Supreme Being. He maintains in you quiet confidence, wisdom and peace, attributes which you convey to your patients. Many patients will admit to feeling better after the visit of the doctor because he has given them confidence, which is an essence. Therefore, always carry confidence in contacting those you desire to heal. Never show any doubt or fear, nor appear puzzled. The healers of ancient times realized the importance of the spoken word and vibration in dealing with disease, and for this reason certain chants were used. These Brethren had knowledge of rhythm, of vibration, and the power of

certain sounds on the etheric body. We advocate the use, when possible, of soft music for certain patients who then respond more readily to their treatment. Your intuition will always help you in the spoken word, which will come from your heart — from your Teacher Who is God. Be careful not to let your mind decide too much for you. Be calm and quiet and seek for that which you have in common with the patient. Get his point of view, and in time you will learn how to get to his very heart, then the life force will be poured through you.

As a general rule we feel that the less you touch your patient the better. There are, however, conditions such as rheumatism and arthritis where you can draw off the poisons. Never work upward on the body, but pull off the tensions and toxins with a downward sweep and off at the feet.

In dealing with a patient's mental condition have him on a couch in a relaxed position — no tenseness. Your first approach in getting your patient to relax is to still the mind (which is so difficult), and then get the body to relax. Take each limb and let it flop; each finger must flop also. Raise the head and let it fall in complete relaxation. Then place your right hand on the brow. Make some light passes across the brow.

Now, with your *whole being*, with your Soul, convey to your patient PEACE. During this process at the beginning of the treatment, have very soft music where possible, then start the contacts, mentally: the throat, the heart, the solar plexus. We find working on the brain or the head is very effective for soul-diseases, for soul-disharmonies. The Soul has its home in the head. The soothing treatment to the head will help very much in reestablishing harmony in the whole being.

In the ancient mystery healing there were three main centers in humanity: generative organs, head and heart. You can stand at the foot of the couch on which your patient is stretched and place your hands on the soles

of the feet and then, with all your strength, pour in the life force.

In absent healing groups try to ascertain the complaint of each patient you name. As you make a study of the various centers of each patient, my beloved, and relax these centers, the power from each center will radiate out to the diseased part of the body. As an example: with digestive trouble visualize a green ray coming directly from a source of light above on to the affected part. If the trouble is spiritual, think of the heart and project the violet or amethyst ray on the heart center. Also, have sunlight on the patient if possible, while the treatment is going on. Then project your love upon him.

I would remind you that in the World of Spirit there are many sick etheric bodies. These are put into conditions of perfect harmony, surrounded by love, and they are healed by the beauty there.

Remember the whole subject of your earth healing rests upon one point: the Life Force of the Eternal. We do not deal with the medical point of view, but only the spiritual aspect of the work. The basis of sickness and disease lies in the etheric body, and it is through the etheric that the Divine Power, or Life Force, is sent. Where there is sickness there is a hold-up of this Divine Force to the physical body. Healers should concentrate on the points of entry to the physical body, for in healing you transmit the Life Force, or fire element. This applies to both physical contact with your patient and absent contact. There is a transmutation through your etheric body of this Power as you transmit it.

I want you, my beloved, to remember that as healers you can assist in your healing work through purification of yourselves. I would explain this need. The whole of the Master's aura became a radiant Life Force. In the process of evolution the healing force will come to every Soul. You can assist the inflow of power, fire and light. Meditate on the White Magic, or Divine Fire, and turn your attention to the centers of your own etheric body.

Visualize the glowing light in these centers, the vibrating light, and in doing this you will the more easily contact the Power and direct it to others. If you who read this are clairvoyant, I would suggest you notice the light which seems to be switched on at the head, throat and heart centers while you work on your patient.

It may be difficult for you, my beloved brethren, to fully understand at this time the reality of this Force which you contact, generate and project. Harmony within, spiritual harmony, causes streams of light from your spiritual centers to merge into one, which goes forth as a single direct light. Your patient will, when the healing power is directed on him, feel heat like a fire on the center which is being treated. Passes can draw off poisons, but the healing of the present and the future will be through concentration on the centers in the etheric body. When you develop these centers in your own etheric body you will never feel cold, because you will have a source of heat within you.

Remember, the throat center can be used as a point of contact when there is congestion in the lower part of the body. In the course of Man's evolution the concentration of the creative power now in the lower organs will be transmuted through the throat center. The natural result will be a transmutation from the lower to the higher part of Man's being. You can treat the head (as it is one of the higher centers) to draw congestion from the solar plexus. Concentrate with your own intelligence, your mind, upon the head center of your patient, and you can relieve gastric difficulty in this way.

You may ask "Should we try to send out spiritual healing to people who are unresponsive, or even antagonistic?" No harm can ever be done by holding any Soul in the Light, but in the work of individual healers or of the Prayer and Healing Groups, it is necessary to discriminate between those who have not yet earned their opportunity to receive spiritual help.

In rendering definite spiritual help it is wise to make the rule that only patients willing to cooperate and tune in to the Healing Group at the stated hours should be accepted, unless unusual circumstances are concerned.

How can patients best 'tune in' to spiritual healing? At the appointed time they should lie down in as comfortable and relaxed a position as possible, putting aside for the time being all cares and anxieties so that they feel relaxed and at peace. Let them try to realize the love of God which enfolds every Soul, and worship in simplicity and sincerity. If the thought of God seems unreal and far away, and the effort of concentration causes strain, let the mind meditate upon something beautiful which has power to touch the heart, for all beauty is of God, and the contemplation thereof raises the Soul heavenward. It is not unlikely that the healing vibrations will cause the patient to sleep. This is excellent, for during sleep much can be accomplished.

The Master said, "Give as ye have received." This applies especially to those who are the recipients of spiritual healing, for the power which flows through their being should be again sent forth in love and service to others to form an unbroken chain of light if it is to remain fully effective.

Once the Soul of Man can respond in absolute purity to the Divine Love or Life of God then the body will be completely and suddenly healed by the true spiritual healing. Such healing is rare indeed because the individual Soul can of itself seldom make so complete a surrender.

The healing forces, like the forces of nature, labor silently in the background; sometimes the patient himself does not know what is happening, but gradually notices that he is becoming happier, better tempered, and that his symptoms are receding. Unfortunately, many such patients are like the lepers healed by the Master Jesus; they go upon their way without apparent thought or gratitude for the loving and unremitting service of the

Brothers who have worked to restore them to harmony.

Having realized, then, that we must not look for rewards in our work, and having accepted this fact, how can we set about learning to heal? Our first realization must be that our capacity to heal any patient depends entirely upon our own degree of attunement with God.

For this very reason a large part of every Prayer and Healing Group of the Brotherhood is occupied, not by concentration upon the patients, but by a service of attunement and spiritual communion. Not until the light within the group has become strong and constant, are the names of the patients called, and the concentration of healing power begins.

We can never become channels through which the light can flow to another Soul while we are absorbed in emotional stress of our own. The Angels of Healing are unable to draw near when the healer's astral body is disquieted. When we would heal, therefore, we must steadfastly put aside our own personal feelings. We must forget ourselves completely and concentrate upon one thing only — and this, not the sickness of the patient, not our desire to heal the patient, nor yet our love for the patient — but upon God. Let us think of God as the Sun, as a blazing Light, Source of all life throughout eternity. Let nothing enter our consciousness but this pure, blazing Light — the Divine Fire. Let us identify ourselves with this great Light so that we are one with that Light. Once in this state of worship and at-one-ment, we may think of the Souls we wish to help, visualize them in the Light, and hold them fast in the Light.

This is the wisest and the surest way of helping any Soul, and it never fails. Even if the patient is encased in some hard shell of materialism, the Light will eventually find a chink and the process of softening and spiritual awakening will commence.

Ill-health and troubles are due to lack of attunement to the Christ-Sun — the Great Eternal Light. When you feel you have been hurt by someone try to re-attune your-

self to the Heights — to that Form enthroned in the blazing Sun, and as you hold the vision think of the one who has hurt you, or with whom you have had a misunderstanding, and a shaft of light will go to him or to her, causing a change — and then all should go more smoothly for you.

I would like each of my beloved Earth brethren to know what takes place on the Inner Planes before the healing service and during the Brotherhood meetings. There is preparation from the Inner Side for an hour or longer before the meeting opens. There is a concentration of Power and Light so that each one who enters the Lodge steps out of earthly darkness, and the process of lifting the consciousness begins from that moment; the mentality, the emotional life, and the soul body of each participant is thus unified. As you seek contact with the Great Spirit, my dear ones, so is your consciousness raised until you actually contact the Inner Planes.

On the Inner Planes, where thought is an instantaneous flash of light, each one vibrates to his spoken name. He has grown into that name until it fits him like a glove. On the outer plane, when a voice calls, physical hearing responds. Call a man by your thought and his mental life responds; call him with your Soul and his Soul responds. Project to his Soul the Light generated by a band of the unseen Brethren, who transmit it through you and he responds to the Soul-light. Power illuminates his mind and gradually permeates through to the physical body, and so to the outward life. With the sick, your Soul-ray may be in time to heal, to cast out poisons accumulated by wrong thought, emotions and manifold errors — it *may* be in time for this, but because its dispatch and reception are instantaneous it *will* be in time to enlighten, to help and strengthen the Soul. No effort of yours goes to waste, my beloved. All counts in the scheme of the Universal — your love, your purity, and above all your deletion of self.

Pray with us, beloved brethren, for the sorrow and suffering of the world.



*GREAT SPIRIT OF LOVE, we pray that peace, Thy peace, may be in the hearts of Thy children everywhere and that it may bless their lives so that all those they meet upon the path of life on Earth may be conscious of the love radiating from them. We hold in Thy Light, oh Father, all who suffer in mind or body. We pray for the disquieted souls of men both incarnate and discarnate.*

*We pray for the lonely, the unloved; those doing their duty on land, in the air and on the seas; those who try to lead upon the right path the unwary feet of all who suffer temptation.*

*We pray for the youth of the world. May they learn to lay their hearts upon the altar of Thy service in serving their fellow-man. May they radiate the fragrance of Love wherever they are.*

*Open the vision of Thy Children everywhere, oh Father God, that it may become increasingly clear and pure so that they may be better able to help mankind in this time of strife and turmoil. Amen.*

## X

### WAYS OF SERVICE IN THE WORLD TODAY

THE life of the one who follows the teachings of Jesus, my brethren, must be a life of ministry, a stewardship, a dedication to a way of life whose chief motive is that of service. The experience of an Initiate of the Light, with all that is included in the practice of prayer and worship, may be looked upon as a preparation, a means of equipment for a life given to the service of the Eternal Father, and to his brother-man.

There are many ways of service, and therefore there are differences of responsibility. From the beginning certain ones have been set aside as the ministers of Christ, and it has been their duty to serve in some church, and by their teaching and example to strive to extend the areas of life over which Christ rules.

Their desire is to bring the whole of Man's activities into harmony with the spirit of the teaching of the beloved Master Jesus. This is, however, the responsibility which rests also upon every true Initiate or follower of Christ. Never, my brethren, have there been greater opportunities than today, nor more urgent demands for mutual understanding, sympathy and compassion.

The chaos of your modern life and the immeasurable suffering which it has brought about may have tended by their very magnitude and persistence to deaden men's sensibilities and to discourage the one who in the face of it all feels utterly helpless. This, my beloved, is a defeatist, a negative attitude. The one who is a disciple of Jesus in very truth must never give way to hopelessness; he must see in every threatening situation a personal challenge to thought and action.

Always remember, my beloved, that *hope* is nothing less than a duty to you if you are an Initiate dedicated to the service of the Master, Who taught that those who aspired to be great "must be the servants of all." That spirit of service is always needed but never more than today; every servant of God must have faith in the God he serves and the hope of the new world which will shortly be born.

Do not only have faith, *be* faith, and refuse to know despair. A great poet wrote "God's in His heaven, all's right with the world." These words seem to mock a world black with clouds of crisis. A disillusioned world, suffering from the consequences of its failure to live a self-dependent life, is pitifully slow to return from exile to its natural home under the roof tree of God.

To believe that "God's in His heaven" is to draw water from inexhaustible springs of hope and power. But "all's right with the world" in the near view is so far outside the fiery ordeal of this time that it sounds mere fantasy.

And yet Man cannot commit mental suicide and yield as so many of our beloved brethren are doing today, to despairing pessimism which consents to settling down and contemplating tragedy and eventual defeat. The greatest need today of disillusioned men and women is a recovery of confidence in life. If it is to be found anywhere, it must come from above themselves. Easy optimism is futile as pessimism. Man has come to a narrow place where there is no turning. He can march forward into light, or reel backwards into outer darkness. A clear recognition of this is the first sign of life's new dawn.

"God's in His heaven," but, my beloved, it is vital that Man in his present condition realize that in Christ God has come to Earth. Christ's Gospel is that whatever be the world's condition, God is here and with Man's consent and cooperation, He can set things right. The alternative is ruin.

In the world of spirit at this present time of your Earth life, my brethren, great preparations are taking place to

prepare the way for the New Age of which we have many times spoken to you. Great upheavals are taking place on your Earth, there is much discontent and darkness, there seems so much selfishness, and life is dismally hard for many. And yet all these conditions are the for-runners of a tremendous spiritual urge toward higher and better things. Though at the moment this may be obscure such conditions will surely make a great impression on the minds and souls of men and will prepare them for the incoming of a greater spiritual awakening and a more transcendent Light than has ever been known before, for Man has been enfolded in darkness. We would say to you that the soul of Man is now turning to the sunlight and looking toward the Eternal Father for His never-failing guidance in life's dark hours.

You have your brethren in the world of spirit, beloved. These have left the Earth plane but are working for you *here* on the Inner Planes. The fact that they have come here does not cut them off from the loving service they rendered to you on Earth but has rather enhanced it, and they look to you to give them a channel for their *continued* service.

It is very important that you realize ever more and more that the Light of God manifests on Earth in His sons and daughters and in His Son, Christ, the Lord of the Earth planet. You can manifest this in your daily lives, my brethren, by putting into effect the words of Jesus: "Love one another." How few practice this in their daily lives! Yet we would say to each one that if all lived truly what those three words imply, a whole world would be aflame with spiritual power, with happiness, and with plenty, and there would be no more sorrow, no more poverty, and no more evil conditions of living.

Love, my brethren, breaks down the walls of individual personality and restores each one to unity with men and with THAT, the great prison-breaker. This is why "the

greatest of all is Love." — "Though I have all knowledge and have not love, it profiteth me nothing."

The disciple should think of his life on Earth as a stewardship, or as a race that is set before him. He must see his life as something given, and for which he is responsible to his Creator. His equipment is for service, and not merely for his own spiritual enrichment. There is, beloved, a goal ahead to the attainment of which each one must bend all his energies, always remembering his need of the bountiful grace and mercy of a loving Father.

Today there is a tendency to separate the practice of religion from ordinary daily life, to confine it to acts of prayer and worship. Moreover there are many who appear to think of religion as having little or nothing to do with conduct. They therefore lack the Peace of God in their daily lives. For those, my brethren, religion is not morality tinged with emotion so much as emotion tinged with morality and tinged, we fear, very faintly.

St. Paul makes no distinction between the more obvious spiritual activities and the ordinary duties of each human life. All life's activities, my brethren, are to possess a character which is theirs precisely because they are inspired by the Christian spirit. The Christian should serve God in his daily occupation; he should be quick and eager in the affairs of life, "not slothful in business; serving the Lord." Serving Him in it and by means of it. If he is a ruler, he is to rule "with diligence;" he must be hospitable which involves all sorts of practical everyday things. In all the varied occupations of life he must reveal the spirit of Christ. He need not be less efficient by being a Christian, nor should he attempt to withdraw himself from life's claims and responsibilities in the mistaken belief that by so doing he is embracing a loftier conception of the Christian religion.

St. Paul's reminder is constantly needed. It is all too easy, indeed, to become absorbed in the daily task, in these days of strain and over-work, and so to forget God

or to relegate any thought of Him to the limited time spent in prayer and worship.

So many of you, beloved, divide your lives into the sacred and the secular as though only a portion of your life is the concern of a loving Father, and that makes impossible that complete integration of your personality which is the mark of His Children who follow Him. It will be a help, beloved, in your attempt to attain this unification of life, to remember that the gifts of God's spirit are as diverse as mankind is diverse. Some are to be used in what might be called the worldly or material sphere, others in ways more directly sacred. But they are all consecrated to God's service — the gifts of the craftsman or artist, of the writer or the speaker, the politician or the teachers of the scriptures of any faith, they are all equally sacred and may contribute to the progress of God's kingdom on Earth.

Such a concept, my brethren, not only gives dignity and eternal significance to all labor, whether of hand or brain, it also helps men to realize that the opportunity to serve God's kingdom is not necessarily to be sought in other and perhaps wider fields, but is there in whatever situation each one is placed, which must be to that one the sphere of the sacred, that which may be offered to God. Then the Peace of God will descend and abide forever in each human heart, thus influencing each act of daily life, bringing happiness and perfect harmony to all who seek and find.

You speak of God's service as "perfect freedom," and this means that you are actually *set free* from all the bondage of any faith or religion. You can then make the transforming discovery that all the tools of your daily work, no matter of what they may consist, are exactly the instruments you can use to help to build the Kingdom of God on Earth.

The Gift of God, my brethren, needs the response and cooperation of your own will, because God works through you for the fulfillment of His purposes. You have your

responsive part to play because you contribute to God's creative purpose for each human life. Your service, however, may not always gain for you the recognition of others. Much of the best work on your Earth has been accomplished by those who have neither sought nor received the plaudits of their fellows. They have offered their lives in humble and devoted service. They have been satisfied with the knowledge that they have done all they could, and they are content.

And in the final appraisement, my brethren, of the Disciple's life and work, when its quality and value are revealed in their eternal significance, then — and this will be his truest reward — he shall have the "praise of his Father God."

The gifts of God's spirit to each of you, my brethren, are as varied as you yourselves are. St. Paul speaks of the Spirit as dividing His gifts "to every man severally as He will." And they are given to each one to profit withal, not for your own personal profit or aggrandisement, but to equip you for service to others.

There is a common element in all the experiences of the followers of Jesus; a common foundation upon which it rests — its faith and its worship. But the building that is erected on this foundation differs with each individual. The Father's architecture is not standardized. The lives of the Saints bear testimony to this.

The experience of each Christian is in some sense unique, just as each must discover God for himself, and follow Christ in his own way, and so bring his individual contribution to the common stock. It is this very variety of experience which adds to the spiritual enrichment of the Church of Christ, and enables it to commend the Gospel to differing types of men and of civilizations, and to varying ages, with the necessary power.

What is true of Christian experience is true also of its expression in terms of service. In this, too, there is and must be endless variety. What matters is not the particular label which you, my brethren, may attach to your

activities, but whether you regard them as part of your Christian vocation. For some, service will be of a definite religious character; for others, it may be performed in certain social activities; for others, in business activity whether in the sphere of economics, politics or in any other exercise of profession or trade. Many are called to serve God indirectly — through their daily duties. "All service," says a great poet, "ranks the same with God; there is no last or first." Your true service is that which only *you* can render.

At Pentecost the influence of the spirit was at once unifying and individual. A fellowship was created not by the subordinating of the individual qualities of the disciples to what might be called a group-mind, but by bringing them into harmony with one another. That they were all "with one accord in one place" was both the preparation for the Pentecostal experience and its outcome. This new fellowship, which was to exercise such a profound influence upon the course of history, was one of diversity in unity — the only kind of human unity which can possess the quality of creativeness, and in which the gifts of the individual can come to their fullest fruition. In this age when the tendency is to think of man in the mass and to reduce the status of the individual to that of a mere cog in the social machine, the rich variety of religious experience, and the outward manifestation of that experience in different forms of service, need renewed emphasis and encouragement.

Such "individualism" does not make for religious anarchy, neither is it inimical to true unity. It makes fellowship more creative; it makes room for initiative; it enhances the individual's value and deepens his sense of personal responsibility. It also enables the individual Christian, however humble the part he plays, to contribute to the whole something that is not a mere imitation of another, but that which is his own — marked by that element of uniqueness which belongs to every child of God.

The teaching of Jesus lays much emphasis upon the truth that it is not so much the fact of the reward that matters, but that the *degree* of the reward goes far beyond anything Man could earn by his own efforts. But the parable is emphasizing a somewhat different aspect of truth. This is that men are not to be judged so much by what they accomplish in relation to their own capacities and opportunities, for clearly these opportunities differ, just as talents differ. The men in the parable who were given their employment at the eleventh hour were not lounging at the street corners; they were there waiting in the market place — the labor bureau — where men were to be found who were seeking work. And their excuse for their idleness was that no man had hired them. When work was offered them, they accepted it with readiness; and so, when the day ended and the time of reckoning came, they were rewarded even as those who had borne the burden and the heat of the day. The *spirit* of service, and not the amount rendered, was the basis of that reward; the will rather than the achievement.

The true assessment of human worth lies rather in the realm of character than of endowment, of quality than of quantity — not in what you receive, my brethren, but in what you strive to contribute in service to your fellows, and thus to fulfill the Divine conditions. "She hath done what she could" is the expression of supreme merit in the words of the Master. By all external valuation what this widow did had little significance, but it was ALL she *could* do, and that qualified her for the highest commendation Jesus could give.

The outcome of your lives is to be measured by the contrast between the gifts bestowed upon you — your intellectual equipment, your privileges, your opportunities, your favorable circumstances — and the service, no matter of what kind and in what sphere, that you dedicate to the common good.

But the parable is also a challenge. In this age of mass production and mass thinking, the individual needs to

be submerged, and his importance reduced almost to the vanishing point. But the faith of the Christian, above all other faiths, enhances the value of the individual, and sees his contribution, insignificant as it may appear to be, as an essential element in the fulfilling of God's purposes in human life.

Man's highest achievements have depended not merely upon great men, but upon the work of humbler individuals who have so often laid the foundations upon which greater men have built. To use your opportunities to the full, whether they be many or few, is to merit the greatest of all rewards: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Before I close this chapter, beloved, I would speak on the Gift of God. To serve God is the highest purpose of your daily life, my brethren. It does not, however, imply any suggestion of servitude. The one with a true understanding does not serve his Father God as a slave serves his master, but as a free man offers himself willingly without any thought of reward *or* of censure. His motive is neither to gain the one nor escape the other; it is the motive not so much of duty as of love.

The service of God, beloved, is much too narrow when it is confined to worship or to the work of any particular faith. Unless in some way you serve God in every phase of your life's activities no service you render can be adequate. The *whole* of life should be an offering to God. If you so view your daily work, a moral and spiritual quality is brought into it which greatly enhances its value to others. You render thus the *best* you can do, in whatever sphere of life you happen to be.

This service is the gift to you of your Father God, and rightly is it so understood. The spirit of God in you, my dear ones, is the spiritual urge within you which creates the desire to offer your service to Him, and to make your own life acceptable to Him; it is God who takes the initiative. That spirit is creative. Each of you will, and

must, serve God *in your own way* and according to your own capacity and opportunity. Always remember this.



*MAY the keynote of all thought and action of our beloved ones be gentleness and love. May they realize the vital lessons with which their human brethren are now faced.*

*May they realize the power of the Light now shining around their Earth, and may they by the quality of their own lives help in the pouring forth of that Light so that it may manifest in all of its glory to all mankind.*

*May the Peace of the Eternal Father-Mother and of the Son rest and abide with each one, now and always. Amen.*

## XI

### VISITORS FROM OTHER PLANETS

BLESSINGS, my dearly loved Earth brethren, and greetings from the Great White Brotherhood who are working with you on your Earth today. Many changes will take place throughout the world of men before the year closes. Your familiar universe will seem strange, almost terrifying in its enormous magnitude — the Earth stretching into regions of unexplored possibilities, both spiritual and material, moved and shaken by forces outside human understanding, and over it all will be the star-strewn heavens, and association with the inhabitants of other spheres of existence.

There is a raising of the whole vibration of the Earth at the present time. Soon will follow the Second Coming of the Christ, the Perfect Man, upon your Earth. Already the Messengers are here preparing the way, and the "signs in the heavens," as foretold by St. John in the *Revelation*, are being welcomed by many as the fulfillment of prophecy now nearly completed.

To many comes the knowledge that men and women from outer space have visited the Earth. We would remind you, my brethren, that communication between you on this planet and the visitors from other realms *depends upon the spiritual evolution of mankind*, because they are of a much higher and deeper spiritual evolution than are those who dwell upon this Earth. It is a mistake to think that a great influx of these visitants will shortly take place. You will not know the secrets of the Spaceships yet, though there may be a very limited number of dedicated souls — those whose lives have been enriched by service and by love, humble in spirit and pure in heart.

and mind — who may have the privilege of direct contact from time to time. But the secrets cannot be fully revealed, because knowledge of them might, in the interests of commerce and science, be put to wrong usage.

The Planet Venus, of which you hear most often, is of a finer substance than this Earth upon which you dwell, which is of a dark and dense matter. The Venusians have a vast scientific knowledge which has not yet reached you, my brethren, and they have evolved because they *live* the teachings of the Christ in brotherhood and love. Some are already on Earth, but because they are clothed as you are they will not be recognized. We can assure you that the first visitors from outer space will be from Venus. If you live the Christ-life and follow the example of Jesus you will prepare yourselves to know these brethren and to welcome and help them as they walk your Earth with you.

The Planet Venus stands for perfect harmony and is the Planet of Love. Jesus Christ dwelt on Venus and this some may not find easy to comprehend. Christ is ever beyond mortal conception because He is the LIFE of all humanity; He directs all human life, and He lives in the hearts of all men.

The Spirit World, my brethren, is not only for those who have left your Earth, but for all those from other planets in the Solar System. I would tell you most assuredly that I, Azrael, have lived on Venus, and so has my beloved brother "White Eagle" (of the London Lodge), and many others of the Great White Brotherhood. You yourselves are preparing to advance on to Venus — in time. It is the next step onward for humanity.

It is necessary for all the Brethren of the Star Circle, (those who serve in the Prayer Groups of the Lodge on Earth) to understand that through their advance upon the inner planes, raising their vibrations and unfolding their soul powers they are preparing the way for communication with visitors from other worlds. There are great happenings ahead, beloved, which in due course

will be revealed to you. In every age God has sent His witnesses; they are with you now, working with knowledge and with love for the emancipation of all humanity —for *all of God's Children*.

In speaking of visitors from other planets we want to make it perfectly clear that it is not as *angelic* beings they will come but as those who can give proof of their presence among you. It will be in human form that they will at the right time make their appearance. Not every one will "know" them, however, because they will come through your consciousness, through the spiritual conception of those attributes of love which dwell at the heart center of the humble, dedicated souls upon this planet. You, beloved brethren, must work upon yourselves and upon the inner planes on which you meditate — thus raising your vibrations and unfolding your soul powers so that you can recognize and welcome these visitors to your Earth. We hear of their coming from Mars, Mercury and other planets, but we say the first visitors will be from Venus, which is the next plane to which you will migrate one day.

This does not mean that all souls when they leave this Earth will immediately proceed to Venus. Those who dwell on Venus are more advanced than men, and therefore many Venusians are beyond Man's evolutionary stages, though we say with certainty beyond doubt that there are some Earth-dwellers who by virtue of their service, by their love towards others, their humility and self-sacrifice have prepared themselves to meet and know those who come from Venus — the "bright and Morning Star" — the planet of Love, which by its influence brings harmony and beauty into the lives of those who are prepared to receive.

We repeat: the beloved Master Jesus once dwelt on Venus. As the Lord Christ, He is the life of all human souls, but He also lives in the heart of the Planet of Love and Harmony.

There have been great souls and also saints who have dwelt upon this Earth in the past, and there are great and very old souls in human incarnation today. The saints of old who suffered martyrdom for their faith, who were crucified, burnt at the stake and tortured, are now among you, even from Venus, that brightest of all the Heavenly Hierarchy. And they are making contact with their counterparts here today, though in many instances unknown.

You will admit, beloved brethren, there have been wild and fantastic stories about the coming of your brethren from other planets, bred entirely in the human mind, and also through certain types of mediumship. It is most necessary to use caution and to "try the spirits to know if they are of God," before you believe all you hear.

These great ones who are now coming can materialize and dematerialize at will, as did their Master Jesus when He dwelt on Earth. They may be among you briefly, and then when they have done a certain work they will go hence until another phase in human affairs arises.

They sometimes come as lights in the heavens, and will form human-like bodies out of the atmosphere, and land from their prepared craft to live among you for a while.

This is all I have to say at this present time. Remember one thing! Unless you are attuned to their high vibrations you cannot work with them. Purity of thought, and in life; humility, deep and sincere; unselfishness in all your acts and, above all, hearts filled with love and worship for God your Father, bring this attunement.

Prepare yourselves by working on the perfecting of yourselves when on the inner planes of prayer and meditation, thus raising your vibrations and unfolding all those powers embedded in your souls. In that way you prepare yourselves for receiving those who will come from other Planets and you will then *know* them.

We have many Brethren from other worlds, some very highly evolved, who, when the time comes, will give their

love and service here on your Earth. I listen to the statements put forth among you as truth about these visitors. I make no comment, as it would be useless to do so. My dear ones, it is only experience that will teach you to recognize the truth as against the false statements, and this, time will prove to you.

We would sound a note of caution, beloved brethren: you will not be given the secrets of the space visitors yet awhile, nor must you let your imagination mislead you. There will be no free and full communication between Earth-dwellers and visitors from space until the inhabitants of your planet become more spiritualized, and as we look upon the conditions of strife and unrest in many places we see delay and disappointment. At the right time they will be in human form and be known, and they will work with their brethren for the help and good of all. There are, however, the few who *are* on Earth in human form, and those who are on their plane of understanding have received and welcomed them.

We say again, *prepare yourselves* by service to others, by prayer, by meditation and selfless living; then you can know and welcome your brethren from Venus wherever they may be on this planet Earth.

We tell you, my brethren, you will have visitors from other planets. They will come when they are received without suspicion, and when the meaning of the brotherhood of all life is understood by you. Then communion can be held with those from outer space who will work with their brethren here in love and service to God, the Father of all.

As you know, I have not encouraged many assertions that have been made as to their coming and the way they would come, though, as you also know, I have not denied their eventual appearance among you. I now say that because of the extreme danger that surrounds your Earth, some *have* come to bring their greater knowledge and experience to help you, and are now walking in your midst as men and women like unto yourselves.

Our brethren from other planets also receive the messages from the Great White Lodge, and accept them and work according to those teachings.

May I say: Read the Bible and follow the teaching of Love in the New Testament, and the Wisdom of the old Prophets; you will find this is far beyond anything you can receive second-hand from any other source in your own world or elsewhere.



*IN your meditation, beloved ones, visualize a Cross of Light, white light, yet sparkling and glowing with all the colors of the rainbow. Visualize it in your own heart center, linked with the Great Cross of Light in the Realms Above. SEE the rays of the great Cross of Light with which you are linked in your Highest Self. Visualize these shining, vibrant rays of scintillating light going forth into all the world, into all the realms of being surrounding your planet, into all the other planets of your Universe — linking all in one great whole in the service of Light, Love and Inner Power.*

## XII

### EFFECTIVE PRAYER

**W**E would again remind you of the value of prayer in the present conditions upon your Earth. Before the Altar in each Lodge of the Brotherhood incense is burning, which purifies the atmosphere and enables the Brotherhood to draw near, bringing by their beneficent presence peace and harmony to each one who gathers there. Your prayers are as the fragrant smoke from the incense, rising directly to the Throne of God, and are a help to us in our work around your Earth.

*Meditate on what we have said, my brethren, and may the healing power direct from the beloved Son fill your hearts, minds and bodies; and may the Light of God shine through the dark clouds of materialism, apprehension and unrest, bringing His perfect peace to all His Children.*

In the world today there is too much haste; there is no calm, no period of retirement from the battle of life. It is possible when you are told to be patient that you may become even more impatient and say to yourself, "But the people of the World of Spirit who dwell in another vibration beyond the confines of this Earth do not understand the needs of the flesh and the demands of the earthly life." My dear ones, you make a mistake in thinking thus. The Spirit understands only too well the claims of the physical life. So when it is suggested that you *make time* to withdraw from feverish anxiety will you remember that we who proffer this advice have learned the need for this withdrawal from haste, from anxiety; for surely only in the secret places will Man make contact with the Source of his being, only in the secret places can he truly pray.

And so we would say a few words on *the source of prayer*. There are many whose Christianity is genuine enough, but who are uneasy in their hearts over their private devotions. They do not fail to "say their prayers" because they feel it is a duty to do so; also it may be a habit of many long years. Yet they cannot honestly say the time spent in prayer brings them great happiness, or that they look forward to this time as a period of great peace.

We would say, my dear ones, that the source of prayer is human power set in motion by the Divine Will. Whether you pray or abstain from prayer depends upon your own volition; but when you pray you bring into action, perhaps quite unconsciously, a power dwelling *within you* which is more than human. The Divine Spirit within you prays *with* you and *for* you. This profound conception of prayer as "the Divine in you appealing to the God above you" is the spirit which helps you in your weakness so that you may know how to pray aright.

But, my beloved, the spirit within you intercedes on your behalf with an intensity that goes beyond all human speech, for God Who reads the human heart knows also what is in the mind of the one who prays for *all* of God's people. The prayer of the Divine Spirit immanent in all God's human Family reinforces the feeble human petitions so these ascend to the transcendent Father Who is above Man.

If you can comprehend our words, my beloved, it must transform for you the whole understanding of private prayer. The Initiate may know in very truth that in the act of praying the Divine Spirit causes him to reinforce his petitions, asking for those things which ignorance may have caused him to ignore. If the humblest of the disciples realizes that as he kneels to make his selfless petitions he brings into operation this illimitable spiritual power, it will indeed be strange if he then still lacks the true desire to pray.

We believe, beloved brethren, that every force of prayer *now*, every exercise of the will power of each man and woman linked with the Divine Will Power, will add to the creative and redemptive work that is being done on the Earth today. Out of all this turmoil and strife which brings sadness to so many, there will eventually come a spiritual volcano, because in all this strife, energy is at work, inherent life is at work. There is no cessation of internal activity, and eventually it will burst forth in an unexpected way. I tell you this, beloved brethren, because I know it is the truth.

Therefore go calmly and peacefully upon your way, keeping harmony always in your daily life, and keeping peace within your hearts so that the relative, neighbor and friend, and those among whom you pass will realize that you have something that they have not and they will wonder what it is. In time they will realize that you are carrying forth a Light, a Light that sheds its beams upon all around. Bear this in mind, beloved ones.

In one of the prayers offered in the orthodox Christian Church, God is asked for His "mighty aid". Mighty, we would suggest, because it suffices for the most profound human need; mighty, because it springs from omnipresent Love, a Love which "never faileth" since it depends not upon what you deserve, my beloved brethren, but upon the nature of your Father Himself. To admit the need for His aid demands humility. That attitude to God is no weak, negative thing, but is itself an essential element in true dignity and human worth.

Your Father's help does not absolve you from all thought and effort of which you are capable; He does not work instead of you, but through you. To become aware, therefore, of your own need for that help, and to be humble enough to receive it, is the surest way to confidence in the face of the "dangers and adversities" of life.

We tell you that every force of prayer and exercise of human will power in a constructive direction, coupled with the Divine Will, adds to the creative and redemp-

tive powers at present becoming active in the World. Tune in, beloved ones, to the Forces of Light and Peace. Let there be times of communion with the Spiritual Powers, and let your thoughts be as beams of Light, bearing peace and goodwill among the nations.

Do not concern yourselves unduly with the surface conditions of Earth, but concern yourselves wholly with the God purpose in life. The peace of the world is within the heart of God. Live in the heart of God and you will know brotherhood and peace. Within the heart of God there is no fear. To give the Light from your own Soul, to give the White Light of Christ — this is Love.

Lift up your hearts to Christ, the Son of the Father-Mother God, who is that Light which shines through the wisdom and love which is in each human heart. By reason of that Divine Sonship all are sons and daughters of the Father regardless of race, color or creed. And in this great brotherhood life visible and invisible is included.

If everybody who has light prays night and morning for those who are suffering today upon the Earth plane it will help — it must help, for the prayers of *those who believe* have a very great power in the world today. Pray with me therefore, beloved brethren, in your homes or at any time.

Pray for the disquieted souls of men, both discarnate and incarnate. Pray for all those who mourn the loss of their dear ones; for those who are unloved, and for those who have no love in their hearts; for those broken by life; for those languishing in prisons; for those who are in mental anguish, for those with their minds clouded. Pray for all these all over the world, remembering in your prayers the Fatherhood of God — that God is the Father of *all* nations, irrespective of race, color or creed.

And as you remember that, my beloved Earth brethren, remember your own brotherhood towards all humanity. Do not acknowledge any man as your enemy but pray for *all* humanity. No matter how much you may have felt enmity toward other nations, do this no more; for

there is no nation today that has not been at fault; there is no human being today who has no fault within himself. National karma will be worked out as the karma of individuals is worked out. "As ye sow so shall ye reap." Therefore have compassion toward all nations and remember the suffering of the whole, and within your own hearts bless each of your brother men, no matter who they may be. I know it is difficult, dear ones; I know how difficult it sometimes is to have that feeling of brotherhood, but remember it will eventually bring to you a great peace within your hearts if you can feel this brotherhood toward all nations.

In the spheres beyond the Earth are temples of healing, temples of learning, temples of wisdom. Here the Brothers assemble, all of the one pure Light, of the one pure Spirit; and at these assemblies there is always chanted what you call *The Lord's Prayer*. This is a mantram with power to open the heart of every true aspirant. If such a prayer is uttered with understanding and sincerity it never fails to invoke streams of life-force from the God-head. It is like setting in motion a vibration which attracts spiritual forces, such as waves of light and truth in the ethers — which are attracted as steel is drawn to a magnet.

We cannot too strongly emphasize or recommend too much *the efficacy of The Lord's Prayer*. In this great prayer there is a sense of surrendering the whole being to God; and this is the first essential of healing — to surrender one's life and being to God. This does not mean that you have to meekly endure pain and ill-health. No, it means that you give yourself in faith to God. Faith denotes an inward knowing that God is all-wise, all-loving and all-powerful. Faith means that you know deep within your heart that God's will for all His Children is that they should be whole, healthy, holy and happy.

The new world to which every human soul is looking forward, beloved, will only be achieved by those willing to meet the cost of what it demands by sacrifice and love,

and many realize today how heavy the price must and will be. Everything successful in human life is built upon sacrifice, and the rights of an individual must never be allowed to overrule what is for the good of all mankind.

Have love always in your hearts, and let it manifest in your daily lives, and in this way, my beloved brethren, you will assist in the peace that one day will come to all Humanity.

It seems sometimes that God taps you on the shoulder, saying, "Child, yonder is one who needs Me. I have a wonderful gift for his life. Touch him for Me with your love so that I may release the blessing I hold for him. He is not praying; he is not attuned to Me as yet. I must depend upon *your* making the connection between his need and My supply. That connection is the channel of your love. Touch him with your loving thought and prayer so that I may flow through you to bless him. To reach him I need somebody's permission, somebody's service, somebody's love, that transmission may be possible from Me to him."

I would refer briefly to the Universal teaching of the Great White Brotherhood. You who have studied these teachings recognize that you are all students of the deeper things, the great mysteries of human life on your Earth and also hereafter. You therefore understand that when *seven* meet together in meditation and prayer there is generated a great power which comes with unity and understanding, and also with friendship. There is also a great power with *three*, as it is the number of the Holy Trinity.

A word about the Centers of Light in man. We do not advocate for the Western world the Eastern method of developing these Centers, but we say this: that through living truly in Christ the Centers of Light will open naturally. Gardeners experiment with flowers and fruit plants to force their growth — but there is always a risk. Let the subtle Centers in your own bodies, my beloved, open and unfold through living the *inner life*, through the

attunement of the Self to the higher world and through selfless service. You will develop naturally these Centers of Light and Power that are within each one of you when you live the Christ life.

When you pray rightly, the channel for the flowing in and out of the God Power should open. Although you may use words at times which may suggest a personal prayer, strive to use this prayer in a way which includes all of God's Children. You can never pray for yourself alone; that could not be *true* prayer. Prayer must be an aspiration to the All-wise Eternal Spirit of Love and Light, and an endeavor to come into at-one-ment with your Father God so that Christ the Son may become active in your mortal life.

True, God has given Man reason, but this reason still must evolve, even as Man's body is evolving, for reason is not all-wise. But God has also given His humanity intuition, and this is now being quickened in the disciples of this New Age. Intuition can be likened to the Voice calling in the wilderness of mortal confusion. Intuition will inspire reason with wisdom and understanding; and the higher reason of each of you, my beloved, will thus evolve, enabling you to comprehend in greater fullness and clarity the works of God. This will enable you to comprehend the Universe and your own being — and to look upon your brother man with love and true comradeship.

Look into the future, my brethren, with confidence in God. Do not see the worst, but always the best. *See the nations being drawn together in federation, in brotherhood.* Know that this is to be, and soon, for this is the Will, the Divine Plan of God. Make no excuses for nations. In Spiritual Law there can be no compromise and no excuse. Law is law and Spiritual Law is the Law of Brotherhood, of Love, of tranquility. See the nations walking together as brothers in the sunlight, living as their Father God intends them to live and as He intended when He breathed them forth from His heart.

Pray now and always for peace, and thus ally yourselves with your brethren in every part of your world.



*WE PRAY, Eternal Father, that ALL may recognize the great power of unity in prayer and in thought so that good may triumph over evil. May each one of our beloved brethren carry the torch which some day will lighten the way for many a wayfarer. May it burn clearly and be held high for all to see. Amen.*

## XIII

### RELIGION, OLD AND NEW

THE AGE OF PISCES has now passed. The Aquarian Age is here. The Age of a Truth or a Religion can be likened to the age of a man. Man lives on Earth his life-span, perhaps threescore and ten, perhaps longer. When he has lived out his life, he passes onward; he has finished with his body, he has laid it aside. Religion is like the body of a man, born to live but for a period only. The Age of a Religion is like an Earth cycle of life, which, roughly speaking, is two thousand and a few hundred years. This period, or cycle, is the body or manifestation of a Spiritual Truth on Earth. In the Christian Church is to be seen the body of Christianity, the physical manifestation, which is the channel through which the higher truth has been trying to percolate. When that body grows old and weary it passes away. The spirit of the passing age withdraws into the Unseen, and waits for another rebirth, just as a man withdraws from his physical body when it is worn out, and waits for a new body in which he can manifest afresh. The new body of the *wedded* truth of Christianity, or, the united teachings of Christ and John the Beloved, is even now being born.

You will see on this Earth a new presentation of the old teachings of Christianity — not one suited to the outer mind, the outer life, but a revelation of the inner life, the inner powers that Man possesses. This will enable him to receive truth in perfect communion with the heavenly worlds — such contact with the heavenly spheres that he will be healed, made whole in body and mind. Then he will no longer tolerate cruelty, slaughter or

bloodshed of any kind, but follow only the true and beautiful attributes of life — service, kindness and helpfulness to his fellow man.

We would speak a few words on *true religion*. The term "religious" is applied usually to those who belong to religious orders, or to those who pay much attention to religious observances in your world today. The very basis of true religion is prayer and worship of your Father God, and no religion is worthy of the name if it does not find its inspiration and power through fellowship with God. But the "Beatific Vision" — the "knowledge of the Divine Ground," however the aim of mysticism is expressed — is by some mystical writers conceived of as the ultimate end and object of the spiritual life, to attain which is to reach *Nirvana*.

The knowledge of God our Father is indeed an essential condition of the religious life, but for many the aim of the mystic seems impossible of achievement — too far above human capacity to achieve. God is known by some of these through the world of nature and beauty, through every form of truth, through God's dealings with mankind as they are seen in the movements of history, and above all through the lives of the Saints of all time, today.

as well as in the lives of dedicated men and women of

The teaching of the Master Jesus is characterized by a strong ethical element: He is always concerned about the conduct of His Disciples. He makes it clear that there is something essential lacking in the inner life, unless the life dedicated to love and devotion leads to a life of service to others.

From His teaching and His life on Earth, my brethren, it would be difficult to justify that concentration upon religious experience which either ignores its ethical demands or makes this concentration an end in itself. True religion enables mankind to attain a mature and balanced personality in which worship and service — the experience of God and the recognition of mundane responsibility —

have each their appointed place, equal in importance. Insofar as a follower of the Christian faith grasps this dual aspect of his religion (which is yet only one aspect) he is learning to tread the path which can lead to that knowledge of God which is at once the root of the life of obedience to the great spiritual laws and the secret of spiritual achievements.

We look around on your world, my beloved brethren, and we view with sorrow the total lack of any religious observances in most homes. There is no time to teach the little ones their daily prayer before they leave for school! There is no time for the parents themselves to study their Bible, or to worship God either in some temple, or quietly in their own chamber! The influence of good is ignored and the example is set towards a life dedicated to pleasure in its many alluring forms. We do not decry pleasure, we regard it as a necessity in human lives, but there are varying forms of pleasure. What can bring greater happiness, my brethren, than being in the open air with birds and flowers, and the simple joys of nature for the young minds to assimilate? To swim in the ocean, play games, and have the companionship of friends means so much in human life, or should do so.

Purity in conversation, and even in body, is growing more rare, and youth, which should be radiant and clean living, seeks the dark places for what they regard as amusement.

We do not seek to moralize, beloved, we only sound a note of warning. We hear much of "youth delinquency" of all types. What brings this sad condition? Surely lack of some form of spiritual training in the home.

There *must* be many changes in the future education of youth. They should not be taught that money, fame, power and position are the principal things in life to which they must aspire, but rather that they must search after the Spirit of God, their Father, behind all forms of life. They must be helped to unfold their natural aspirations toward God. They must be taught not only

so-called facts, but there must be a gentle drawing out or unfoldment of the Divine mind which is in every child. There will then be a different aspect brought into being, and a different conception of what true and lasting happiness means.

It is to the youth of today, who will be the men and women of the New Age, to whom we look to bring a better understanding of true brotherhood and service to one another, and who will be responsible for the true and lasting peace which will one day dawn upon this Earth — a peace which, to be lasting, must have a Divine Source — the Peace of God which will pass all understanding.

In the first Epistle of St. John, the expression "the world" is used with different meanings, but usually, my brethren, it signifies everything in your daily lives which is not in accordance with but antagonistic to the spiritual life. The aim, therefore, of the spiritual life is to overcome this condition. To do this it might appear that the world must be thought of as an enemy. But to the Initiate, the disciple, there is the knowledge that we must love the world even as "God so loved the world," for it is Love alone that can redeem. The enemy it may be, but the beloved enemy.

My brethren, you cannot overcome the world by regarding it as something alien and apart from yourselves. Remember, you are of the world, and therefore it is not possible to isolate yourselves from it. You can only overcome the world by being one with it and sharing its life as every one of God's children is bound to do. In early days many Christians separated themselves entirely from the world and retired to the desert or the wilderness, but by this act they deprived their brethren of the very influence that these needed so sorely. Today many a Christian is perhaps unconsciously following their example when he thinks of his religion as having no concern with outside matters such as political or international affairs.

But a victory over the world must be regarded as a process not of destruction but of redemption. To destroy

the enemy can never be more than a partial victory; but to win him to friendliness and by cooperation into a change of mind and heart is truly a triumph over him. The secret of such a triumph is faith and a belief in the beloved Master Jesus as the Son of the Father-Mother God — that is, as the Ultimate Revelation of the Father, and therefore the final word about Man and his destiny. For to the one who believes this, there can never be any subjection to the spirit of defeatism, no matter how desperate the situation may become.

We have many times indicated that humanity is now on the brink of a New Age known as the Age of St. John, the Beloved. In this New Age it is the Gospel of St. John which will form the basis of the faith of the future. It is a Gospel of Love, and the teachings of the Master Jesus on Love are given in this Gospel. It therefore follows that the religion of the New Age will be not only a religion of belief and of faith, but also of love in action. It is NOT sufficient to worship with lips or with intellect the true Source of your being. It is not enough to be just good. *You must, my brethren, have knowledge of the power you possess within yourself and how to develop this power to the highest degree.*

In the New Age each one must understand that he is working toward a much deeper, fuller life, to initiation into the Higher Self and into the new religion of happiness, of brotherhood and of Divine Love and Light. Love is Light, beloved, and this is the power of healing. Light is the ray of healing. There are many colors in the spectrum, and all healing is from Light. Light is also Love. Jesus the Christ is the Son of Light who comes on the wings of healing to mankind.

The Brotherhood home in Southern California, near the Pacific, is a home of healing — a center of mental and physical healing for those in need of this. Healing is definitely a part of the religion of the New Age.

In the New Age now dawning a new religion will come into being. There are many who will not like a new re-

ligion — all that is strictly orthodox will still possess them — but nevertheless they will have no choice. This new religion, the new Church, will preach not only the teachings of your Bible, but it will interpret the mystic signs and symbols with which the Bible is filled. It will teach, beloved, how you can each one unfold your own inner powers and use them for the spiritual upliftment and blessing of mankind.

In the Eastern teachings, which are now being brought to the West, the disciple is taught to turn away from all material affairs, also from the outer world, and seek the presence of the Lord. You will remember how the beloved Master went up into a mountain and His disciples gathered around Him. He opened His mouth and taught them in the words of the Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus rose above physical life. He withdrew from the material world altogether. We would remind you that this is what you do in meditation. You shut out all the disturbances of the world and you take the inward path to the Indwelling Christ at the center of your being, and there you rise in consciousness to the mountain top and open your soul to the glory of the Lord. In this way you become charged with perfect life, with perfect balance, and so with perfect health and strength.

In your Christian faith, my brethren, is both world-renouncing and world-accepting; it both accepts the good things that life can offer, and rejects what seems to retard the growth of the spirit. The disciple has sometimes enriched one aspect of experience at the cost of much that makes for a full and fruitful life, and has thereby failed to enter into that "life more abundant" of which St. John speaks and which St. Paul's words suggest — "In everything ye are enriched by Him."

Others have so understood and practiced their religion as to over-emphasize its denials — and have thus helped to give color to the idea that the Christian faith makes for the impoverishment of life rather than its enrichment. It would be possible to show that the teachings of Jesus

and His Disciples have enriched every realm of human experience. Such enrichment may be seen in the realm of art, literature and philosophy, and even in the world of science.

My beloved brethren, what your world owes to the inspiration of Christianity, even where it is unconscious of its debt, would be impossible fully to compute; the debt is incalculable. These values, however enriching they may be, are to be thought of as essentially by-products. The supreme enrichment that the Christian faith brought to the world is to be found in the sphere of Man's knowledge of God and His purposes, and of his own nature and place in the universe.

Before the coming of Christ, in spite of much that was insufficient and even mistaken in Man's religious beliefs, there were yet here and there many evidences of inspiration and insight which the Christian accepts as a genuine revelation of God. But in Christ it is seen what God is really like, how He thinks of His Children, and what He desires their human lives to be. And while this does not mean that all Man's deepest questionings are thereby resolved, it does mean that a Light has been thrown upon his life and thought by which alone these questions can find their ultimate answers.

The Christian disciple is not required to deny all the interests and satisfactions of this life in the interest of the life to come. The value of experience may be tested by whether or not it adds to the fullness and richness of life, to those deeper satisfactions that are not at the mercy of the world. It has been the testimony of many men and women that a true religious faith bestows what no fleeting enjoyment can offer — a deep sense of security and fulfillment. Even in a world so disturbed and insecure as that of the present Age, this faith may be the foundation of a life that finds not only its personal enrichment, but the ability to communicate something of that enrichment to the common life. "All things are yours," says St. Paul, and there is no need to set limits to the grand

inclusiveness of his claim. But even though the Christian possesses "all things" he is not possessed by them; he is attached and yet detached; this-worldly and other-worldly — a pilgrim with no permanent dwelling-place, and at the same time a citizen who shares in the life of the community, accepting all responsibilities of his citizenship; so passing through "things temporal" that he does not lose as an enriching and ever-present possession the "things eternal."

There are many thoughtful people who desire with reason that there should be one faith professed and believed throughout the world, and they are impatient with the exclusive attitude of the Christian faith. They hope that a world-faith may be evolved by the mingling of the Gospel with the highest elements of Buddhism and Hinduism. It must, however, be pointed out that history does not suggest that the Christian faith mingles well with other faiths, and that the New Testament has the intransigent note proclaiming that there is no other Name than Jesus Christ by which men may be brought home to the Father's House.

A faith shared with another religious leader would have ceased to be the faith of the Apostles. You will naturally ask: Does this mean it is necessary to regard all other faiths as false and that you have nothing to learn from them? Certainly not. You are not forced to deny that there has been Divine revelation outside the Christian Scriptures. There are many beautiful and meaningful Lights scattered through the human race, but they are all reflections or fragments of the "Light of the World", though you may hope to learn something from other faiths and philosophies. You are not yet in possession of the complete and final truth; you are still learning.

You might suspect that your Western ways of thought have not been adequate to grasp the full meaning and reality of the manifestation of God in Christ. Those who have been trained in another tradition may help you to understand aspects of truth which are beyond your own

present power to apprehend. The victory of your Christian faith — for which you should pray — does not mean the destruction of other faiths but it does mean that the fulfillment of all the truth and nobleness that is in you is more deeply known and understood in Christ.

Any religion which is to live, my brethren, must increase and enlarge its self-expression. Otherwise, however exalted it may be, it will eventually arrest human freedom and probably reprove and condemn it, because its teaching about God and Man will become remote from everyday experience; and its way upward and onward will be limited to a distant and perhaps barren contemplation of great and ultimate realities. Then Man from his dark prison of human life could only strain his vision towards a Light which could only break when death has finally rid the soul of its possibly hostile human vesture of decay. Life, meanwhile, would be a thing merely to be endured and its activities and concerns either meaningless or damaging to the Soul.

True religion is creative. Great works of art are heard or seen as expressing symbolism; often they are described as immortal or sacred. As personalities and relationships receive more reverence, the Inner Life increases in value and power, and worldly success then ceases to be the goal. The goal of the true Inner Life is always a seeking for truth or reality, which is as deathless as beauty and goodness itself.

There is a demand in every generation, my brethren, for your Christian faith to be made simple so that *all* can understand it — to have its superfluous words cut away so that the full glory of the faith can be revealed. It is a reasonable demand so long as you do not surmise that there are no mysteries, no difficulties impossible at this time of being explained, and that the human mind is unable to understand all the heights and depths of the infinite Love of the Father toward His Children.

The first fundamental fact about the Christian religion is that it is faith in a Person. "In the fullness of time"

God chose to reveal Himself through a human life. Christianity centers in Christ, who He is, and what He accomplished through the journey of the Divine into the stream of human history. This is not a simple belief; it demands the allegiance, my dear ones, not only of your intellect but of your heart.

As no one else in history, Christ creates a response. He calls out the disciplined affections; and enlightened mankind continues to believe in Him even when part of the world denies all He lived and died for. Christ, as no other religious teacher, is the Gospel for the religion He has founded. He is, indeed, the dividing line between Christianity and religion in general, for in Him the purpose of God for Man is revealed in living flesh — a miracle that evokes a response in the human heart. God in Him spoke in a language which each one can understand and to which each one is able to respond.

But this response to Christ's call is not easy and not always as spontaneous as the responses on the Galilean shore suggest. To ask the question "What would Jesus do?" creates as many perplexities as it disposes of. There is no knowing what He would now do, in many modern situations which are hedged about by restrictions and frustrations unknown to His time. Indeed, His teaching seems in some instances to be incomplete. What, for instance, would the beloved Master say, my brethren, about Man's attitude to the state, about war, tyranny and the giant web of your modern industries which tend to engulf the personality of modern man?

To expect guidance on every point of human life from the teachings of Christ as you read them in the Scriptures is to misunderstand the purpose of the Christian revelation. To demand a more simple explanation of the faith, it would seem, was never the purpose of God. "We have the mind of Christ" and this great affirmation of the Master Paul provides the key to conduct. You each and all have to make your own decisions after you have tried reverently and honestly to discover the truth as it

is in Christ, not only in the Bible but through what other men have discovered about Him.

In a sense, the Christian revelation is a progressive experience, displaying fresh truth whenever the mind of Christ is allowed to flow through and influence your lives. There is always more light and truth for the Initiate to experience from the mind of Christ — a belief which is as fundamental a key to conduct as it is an understanding of God's purposes. "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are diversities of administrations, but the same Lord."

Those first Christian men and women found a unity of purpose, transcending differences of race and cultural heritage, in the acknowledgment of the one Lord, Jesus Christ. Christians today believe that a way of unity for the world will be found when people of all nations are brought to accept the early Christian creed — "Jesus Christ is Lord." With this goes the recognition that a man's capabilities are indeed gifts for which he is responsible. There is a debt to his brother man; others have labored; he cannot rightly waste what has cost them so much. A generation also bears a collective responsibility for the right use of its resources. Beyond the gift is the Giver. The disciple of Jesus, my brethren, believes that he is called to work with God in carrying out the Divine purpose. This makes him humble. But to be humble is different from being bewildered, it is rather to begin to be creative in a real sense.

We refer once more to religion because there is so often a tendency on the part of those who present Christianity to an ordinary man to offer it in a way that may attract him. Religion is often presented as a solution to all human problems. A man or woman may be unhappy or frustrated, thinking there is no social justice, there is no international peace, therefore Christianity is the only thing that can overcome all these matters successfully. The accounts of the life of Jesus of Nazareth in the Gospels show that His presence among men attracted some

and repelled others. Jesus did not offer to solve their problems. He said "Come unto me," but people were to come to Him in order that they might be with Him and used in *His* purposes; they were not to find through Him a means of pursuing their own purposes.

The duty of the Christian is to state the truth as he sees it, with courtesy and sincerity, leaving the consequences of his task to God. Such a presentation of the Christian faith will, in fact, attract many whose more thoughtful loyalty will be all the more sincere.

Surrender all your worries and perplexities to the Divine Spirit and your problems will no longer trouble you. Right solutions will appear. Surrender is not a negative condition, for in surrendering to God great power becomes active in the Soul. This will require control of the emotions — stillness of the mind and a perfect harmony and peace in the spirit. You can then demonstrate in your daily lives the religion you confess in your church when you go to worship there.

We are glad to see the beloved brethren of our Lodges worshipping with their friends and with other worshippers. This brings great unity and a very great power becomes active. With only two or three gathered together in His name He is there, how much more among many will His power and His love be felt!

God has often chosen as the Channels of His Light those who have not been of any orthodox belief. Was not Jesus condemned by the Pharisees on this very ground? And indeed error has sometimes been the means of throwing partly understood truth into brighter relief. God has shown the Light of His truth to the erring, and so led, rather than forced them into the right path.

Truth, beloved brethren, cannot be followed except as it is seen and in some degree understood by the mind.

If you follow the Christ teachings and accept them as the ultimate truth about God and life and the world, you make an act of faith, sometimes only dimly grasping where that act may lead you. But in taking this step be-

lieve that as you strive to walk in the Light, more Light will be shed upon your path, and you will come to know more of the truth that will set you free.

Always bear in mind that truth is as a jewel with many facets, which all fit exactly into pattern and create the beauty of the finished article. You are all different personalities, different individually also. You may therefore seek truth in varying ways, but nevertheless it is the one great truth you *all* seek. Follow therefore that Christ path which suits your own needs best, even if it is not the same as that your brethren follow. You will arrive at your goal as they will do. Never pass judgment upon or criticize those who seek to follow the Christ way to that world beyond all earthly vision, where "Christ sitteth at the right hand of God."



*O, Master of the Great White Lodge,  
Lord of all the religions of the world,  
Thou comest again to the world that needs Thee  
To help the nations that are longing for Thy Presence.  
Thou speakest the Word of Peace  
Which shall cause the peoples to cease their warring;  
Thou speakest the Word of Brotherhood  
Which shall make all quarreling classes and castes  
To know themselves as one in Thee.  
Thou comest in the might of Thy Love;  
Thou comest in the splendor of Thy Power  
To bless the world which is longing for Thy Coming,  
Thou Who art the Teacher alike of Angels and of men.*

*Amen.*

## XIV

### THE STAR CIRCLE

(A Message to the Prayer and Healing Groups of the Great White Lodge)

**A** GREAT opportunity is yours to become focal points or servers of what is called the Star Circle — the Christ Circle of the Great White Brotherhood. Try to picture the Assembly of the Star Circle in the Heavens; visualize them in your meditation. They are around you, come to serve you, to free you from the imprisonment of materiality, of Earth desires. Rejoice with them for your creation, my beloved. May you be ever more conscious of the tenderness and love of the Christ Spirit which guides the work of the Star Circle and flows out to you to help adjust the difficulties and the doubts which perplex so many human souls in this present time.

Always remember and keep ever before you the symbol of your Star and of the Star Circle, my beloved. Great Souls in the heavenly spheres bear upon their brows the mark of the Six Pointed Star and they form the Circle of the Christ Love. It is only because this Christ Circle works both as incarnate and discarnate beings that you will be safely guided into the Aquarian Age. In your daily meditation remember always the Star Circle working for peace upon your Earth. Cooperate with them in your prayers, because your Light must assist in the spiritual unfoldment of humanity — bringing a truer wisdom, a wider vision and increased powers of the spirit for the coming of true brotherhood and peace.

Some of you are closely linked to the Star Circle. The work you are doing now in the homes and places where

you meet together in Groups is not in any way a sudden plan, but is a plan developed in the past in the Council Chambers of the Star Circle beyond this Earth. Many Souls are drawn from different spheres and planes of consciousness in the world of spirit to link with you at these times. Souls of men of ancient races and of many nations assemble with you for a very particular purpose, this purpose being to form focal points through which the power of the Christ Circle can minister to the Souls of those who in many and divers ways have passed through an unprecedented period of suffering, and in some lands have endured years of fire.

Remember, my dear ones, that these sufferings and these years of fire were purifying in their effect. This purification is now in the hearts of the people as a preparation for a glorious age — The Golden Age. This preparation has only just commenced, and its development and success depend on each one of you, my dear ones, and upon all who read our words.

The Star represents the Light — the Light of Brotherhood; it is the Star of the Christ, representing the Christ-love to which the Nazarene referred when He said, "Love one another; love the Lord Thy God with all thy heart and all thy soul and all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself." So we have in that symbol a representation of the Ancient Wisdom and the Love of Christ — Wisdom and Love combined — which is to be realized by humanity in this New Age, the Age of Aquarius.

The Six-pointed Star is the symbol of the Great White Brotherhood Groups in the United States and in the British Isles, and wherever their Groups may meet all over the Earth. The Star is a symbol of Man's journey throughout life; it holds the meaning of creation and the meaning of God's Plan for each one. When the Wise Men of old sought the Star they sought the birthplace of Truth, and today all wise men also seek the path of Truth.

Down through the ages groups of men and women known as "Illumined Ones" have lived in communion with the Angels and the Great White Brotherhood on High. Such Illumined Ones have been drawn from all races, and from all grades of human life. They only recognize *one Truth*, and that Truth is the Christ Within. They live under the guidance of their Inner Light. They are always so attuned that they receive direct guidance also from those Brethren of the World of Spirit who walk hand in hand with their Earth brethren. Their lives are interpenetrated by the spiritual power of the Great White Brotherhood of the Star Circle in the Heaven world.

In speaking of the Star of Christ we would explain its true meaning. You know that the Star consists of an upper and a lower triangle. The triangle is the symbol of the Holy Trinity, and the Star contains a higher triangle descending and penetrating a lower triangle. When there is a perfect blending of the Heavenly Triangle and the lower triangle which represents humanity, a perfect six-pointed Star is formed. The Light and Power of this Star radiates forth to all who can receive it.

We of the Great White Lodge can only comprehend One Life as perfect — that of The Christ — and, because of this the Star is to us of the Brotherhood representative of The Christ, or the Perfected One — the Son, Who is the Lord of this Earth planet, and Whose Light and Love enkindled in all hearts will save it. This Light and Love can fill every heart, turning mankind from darkness to Light, turning them from sin and the violation of the Cosmic Law of *brotherhood* to the harmony of Heaven.

My beloved, the Star is the symbol of the Christ-man, and the purpose of your life and service is to let the Light of the Christ-man — the Light of the Son of God within *you* — shine forth upon *all* your brethren.

The Six-pointed Star is also the symbol of God's love; it is the symbol of *brotherhood*, for in this Star two triangles are interlaced — one points upward, and one

points downward. The upward pointing triangle represents the aspiration of mankind upward, and the downward pointing triangle is the symbol of the Divine Light coming down into the Earth. The Wise Men of the East followed this Star, and by its guiding light found the Babe in the stable. It symbolizes the Soul of Man rising up toward the Unseen, rising up toward the Higher Consciousness; and it symbolizes God-consciousness coming down — the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Brotherhood — the true *brotherhood* between Man and Christ. Meditate on the significance of that Star.

We would like also to give you for your meditation at this time, so pregnant with anxiety, the symbol of your own Lodge and all the Lodges of our Group: the Cross within the Circle with the six-pointed Star at the center. Visualize the equal-armed Cross of brilliant light as the symbol of self-sacrifice and service to all God's great human family. See Man made perfect, with feet firmly planted on the Earth, and with arms outstretched in the form of the Cross in an attitude of service and blessing. The Arisen Christ! The Star shines from His heart-center like a brilliant jewel. In the heart chakra lies the seed atom of the Christ Spirit . . . the *Jewel* within the lotus of the heart.

Visualize this shining Jewel in your meditation and contemplate its magical, mystical power. By your thought it shines across the world, having occult power to comfort the lonely and bereaved, to heal the sick in body and in mind, and to succor and guide weary Souls along life's journey.

Slowly, very slowly, comprehension of this Infinite Power of Divine Love dawns within the heart, and with it comes the supreme consciousness of union with universal life, through which you know there is no death.

Enfolding the Cross of Light with the six-pointed Star in the center, is the Circle of Universal Love and Light. You see this as a living light, pulsating with the soft hues of rainbow colors, its rays penetrating the other symbols

and enveloping them as in a cloak of light, and shedding this powerful radiance over all Creation. May this symbol of the Lodge continue to work for the blessing of mankind!

Since the world began there have been Holy Ones — Angels from other planets, Holy Angels from the Throne of God — especially concerned with the evolution of Earth's humanity. Among these Angels, lesser Angels, Spiritual Beings, even to Man himself, are certain Souls who bear upon their brows the mark of the six-pointed Star. These Souls form the Star Circle in the heavens ..... the Circle of the Christ-love.

Beloved, we say again, meditate each day on the Star Circle which is working for peace on Earth. Do your part to help the Angels. Your light must add to the glory of the heavenly light of the Star. The spiritual unfoldment of humanity, the unfoldment of true wisdom, of true vision, of powers of the spirit, will come to all who prove receptive to the Christ Light, and to all who give forth the spirit of brotherhood and peace.

Masters and disciples of all time have given out the same teaching, this "jewel of great price," yet so many organized faiths become as empty shells because they allow materialism to creep in, and so become blind and deaf to the true spirit. And so many religions lose their power and pass away, but the true Light of Christ, of love, of gentleness, of humility and justice is the same yesterday, today and forever.

In the prayer, meditation and healing work of The White Lodge which the Brotherhood has inspired in many cities, small dedicated groups of men and women meet regularly before the Altar in loving service. On each Altar are the symbols of the Star Circle — for these Groups on your Earth, my brethren, are linked in service with the Star Circle of the Heavens.

As you keep your lamps trimmed so that the light may be pure and bright, shining forth from your hearts to help your brethren on the way, the world will grow

beautiful, for men will walk and talk with Angels. The Ancient Mysteries will be taught again, and a wonderful time will bless all people. Be ready to go forth to meet the Cosmic Christ and so come face to face with all that is beautiful, pure and true.

We say to you there *will* come a time when the Spirits Above — Angels, and the Spirits of men and women made perfect — will come and will walk and talk with their brethren here upon the Earth plane. The veil will *then* be so frail — it gets thinner all the time with the understanding that is coming to humanity. You in these Groups, by the prayers, by the service you render, by sitting in an atmosphere which has been impregnated with the beautiful influence from the Unseen, you yourselves will in time, with faithful service before the Altar, have an opening of your own vision. You will first become *conscious* of those Higher Beings who surround you, and eventually you will *see*, first perhaps the lights that will twinkle around the room, and then you will see the Brotherhood themselves who minister before the Altar.

Pray for that time to come; *render loving service*, and in that way you will open channels within your own hearts which will give to you the vision of which I have spoken.

My beloved brethren, may you all be *conscious* of the love of the Great White Brotherhood which surrounds you in all your ways. We are God's messengers and, like you, are dedicated to love and service. We are Spirit and you also are Spirit though you are still in the vibrations of the Earth environment. Always remember, we are near to answer the call of our Earth brethren in times of sorrow, difficulty and loneliness. Our service to you is one way in which the love of God, the Eternal Father, manifests on Earth, in that we are able to give you guidance and help in His Name when it is needed.



To THEE, *Spirit of Love, Wisdom and Power, we lift up our hearts in gratitude for all the mercies vouchsafed to us, both incarnate and discarnate, as we journey along the same path the Saints, Teachers and Initiates of all the ages have taken towards the Light of Truth.*

*Oh, Father-God, we pray that our brethren may follow that path with patience and courage, meeting all the obstacles that arise on the spiritual way with faith in Thy Love and an abiding hope that each one may attain the Perfect Life which Thou hast prepared for ALL Thy Children. Amen.*

## XV

### TECHNIQUES OF MEDITATION

“**C**HANGE and decay in all around I see.” How forcibly this truth has been borne in upon mankind during the past few years. We have realized how every physical object deteriorates through lack of use or for lack of light and air. Rot sets in when buildings are left unused, moths corrupt the garments saved for future days; the organs and members of the mortal body atrophy when not used and exercised. Always there must be movement, always the circulation of light and air. Surely this sets up a train of thought.

If, when static, all things on the Earth, from the smallest to the largest, from the ugly to the beautiful, tend to lose form and return to their primeval state, how truly must this apply to the invisible body of Man. As above, so below; as outer, so inner. If our finer bodies are lazy and inactive, how can we expect our physical counterpart to be healthy — depending as it does upon the free flow of Universal Energy through all the bodies? Remember, Man is a threefold being; body, soul, and spirit interpenetrating one another.

The monks of old thought fit to divide their day into three parts: prayer and meditation (spirit); study and recreation (soul); manual labor (body). A hold-up in the circulation of the spiritual flow causes inharmony and impedes the working of the physical. If men and women want to be healthy and to feel full of goodwill — God’s will — they will have to pay heed to that inner self, to open it so that the light can penetrate and stir into activity the dormant power of the spirit which is exercised by the circulation of the spiritual flow, as is

the physical body exercised by the circulation of the blood. How can this be done? By aspiration and meditation; *by shutting out the material vision and focusing one's thoughts on the inner self.*

The Wise Men of the East knew this truth. The dwellers of the West can become wise also. If, for even a few moments each day, the eyes are closed and the golden light (the Spiritual Sun) is visualized pouring upon mankind, flooding their inner and outer being, an unfailing law is set in motion. The Divine Flame which is in every man's heart — without which he could not function as a reasonable being — is fanned and glorified. Did not the Master say, "The Kingdom of Heaven is within . . . Seek and ye shall find"? Just as Man works to secure material possessions so must he work to secure that inner peace, that feeling of well-being, that love and good-will towards others. As the light within him grows, so will he light the way for his brother men.

Only by individual growth can the world be lifted to a higher state — to enduring peace. It is an immense responsibility for each one of you, that of adding your quota to the light of the world! Cannot those of you who feel there is no time for spiritual work resolve to do this bit towards this upliftment? Is it not possible to sit quite still for a brief period each day, letting the Divine Energy flow into your being and trying to become in tune with the Infinite?

Light up the resting place of the Soul that it may open its doors to the spiritual sunshine, that it may give forth love and kindness to its fellows as a lighted window sends forth shafts of light into the darkness. Strive for growth and beauty. Never permit decay to set in. Then, as surely as the day follows the night, so will the soul receive that peace which passeth all understanding. For the essence of life is love, and God is Love. "Oh, Thou Who changest not, abide with me."

Say to yourself: "The Judge dwells in my own heart, within my own self-respect. My neighbors cannot know

what I think, feel or suffer; cannot know that which I really am, nor yet the reasons for my actions. But I — *I know*. I know whether my motives are clean and honorable and selfless, or otherwise. How do I know? Because the Master is so near me that His judgment seat is within my own heart." Give deep thought to this during the observance of your quiet time, my brethren, and note what understanding will be born into your mind.

If your world is to know peace, planning and good-will and determination will obviously be essential. But above all, my beloved, will be needed men and women whose spirits are so responsive to God that their lives will become centers of a beneficent influence which will inevitably spread into the common life which all share.

Psychology, whether its methods may agree or differ, is here in complete agreement with the ideals of the followers of the Master Jesus. For the Initiate, however, this unifying influence both comes from Christ and *is* Christ Himself. He not only gives peace, He *is* our peace. And He is the fount and center of all true and lasting unity. "By Him all things exist" — therefore He must be the center of the life of each of His individual followers. It should therefore be the aspiration and the prayer of every Christian to make this centrality — this complete oneness of all — a fact of His own experience, and to endeavor to express it in his every action and relationship. And this awareness of oneness is born within, is sought in quiet times and places by one's own individual effort and desire, and becomes a part of the very essence of being through the use of meditative prayer, followed by stillness of mind.

It is so necessary to go direct to God, to the Great White Light as the Wise Men of old called it, Whose manifestation is seen by men through the Saints and Teachers of all ages and to a perfect degree through the Master Jesus of Nazareth. But when you meditate we suggest that you make your approach *directly from the heart center* and from the mind within the heart to the

Father-Mother God in Whom all life has always been. Nothing should come between the Child and the Parent; there should be direct contact.

Meditation should not be something to be indulged in only at odd moments in your sanctuary but should fill your whole life, so that you live continually in harmony, in sweet happiness within as Jesus did. For He said, "The Father and I are One; I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me," This, my beloved brethren, is what the Western world has to realize. It has to learn to retreat within, to turn its attention from materialism to spirituality — from death to Life.

As I have heretofore explained, there are many worlds above and around this Earth, many planes of life, many states of consciousness; Man attracts to himself companions — Guides, Teachers, Angels, planetary Beings — attracting to himself the like of that which he himself is, that which he has created within himself.

You may not be aware that you are already serving mankind, though perhaps not in a spectacular way. So long as a Soul is expressing God in thought, word and action in a human and happy way, he is doing the work for which he longs, even if unconscious of doing it.

Even as you on Earth delight to hold converse with those on a plane just beyond the Earth, so your brethren in the higher spheres equally delight to hold communion with those in the spheres above themselves. Life is but one grand chain, link within link, of brotherhood. You are individual, alone, and yet of a vast company.

In your meditations you will become more aware of these truths, and therefore we urge you, our beloved Earth brethren, not to neglect this communing in the silence of the spirit with the Highest within yourselves, and thus make direct contact with your Father-God and with His Beloved Son, the Christ within. *Nothing else will work in God's universe but God's own way of life;* Man can fulfill himself only in life which is hid with Christ in God.

Jesus rose above physical life. He withdrew from the material world altogether. We would remind you that this is what you do in meditation. You shut out all the disturbances of the world and take the inward path to the indwelling Christ at the center of your being; and there you rise in consciousness to the mountain-top and open your Soul to the Glory of God. In this way you become charged with perfect life, perfect balance, and so with perfect health and strength.

Meditation is the special teaching of the Great White Brotherhood, and has been taught and used by the Wise Men and Sages of India through many ages to this day. In the preparation for meditation one very important thing to know is control of the breath. Breath is an electrical essence, the life essence in the air. When used correctly and thoughtfully this life essence is taken into the lungs and brain, causing the brain cells to unfold more of their latent intelligence.

To attain renewed vigor when the body is weary and the nervous energy is at very low ebb, slow down the rate of your breathing *consciously*, reducing the rate of breath to about half of the normal. But do this by degrees, not suddenly. Breathe slowly in, hold the breath for a very short time, then breathe slowly out. During the few moments of holding the breath, you still your mind also, and this is very good daily discipline, my brethren.

When you feel very tired and depressed — all seems to go wrong, nothing you want to do matures — stand by an open window place your heels together and stretch out your arms. Your body thus forms a cross. Now breathe in slowly, hold it, (holding your mind still also), and then slowly breathe out. Perhaps seven breaths is enough. If not, then repeat. After a short period of doing this conscious breathing, you will feel so different; your blood stream becomes purified and your nerve centers recharged, and in your mind the sun shines once more.

Control of the breath is the prelude to meditation. In preparation for meditation, after the slowing of the breath,

comes concentration. Concentration is an activity of the mind drawing to itself a thought relating to a given subject. Choose a subject of spiritual value, such as a thing of natural beauty, or one of the teachings of the Master Jesus. As you draw all thought and physical senses away from the awareness of outer things into ever deeper study of the subject, you will recede into ever-deepening inner stillness from whence you raise your consciousness to the higher planes of being. It is in meditation that your Soul can be released and function on another plane of consciousness, wherein all is peace and enlightenment.

A very simple way to start daily meditation is to give a short time to it every day, preferably at the same time. The best time for this is the early morning when the earth is renewed and a new day begins with the body renewal and fresh hope, fresh aspirations and fresh opportunities for love and service.

It is necessary to be alone — in your room, in a garden, beside a stream or on a hillside. The main purpose of meditation is to control thought in order that God may talk to you, may reveal truths and illumine your mind. Do not allow the thoughts to wander about aimlessly in your mind. Keep drawing your mind back to the chosen subject as an obedience training for it. Eventually the mind will cease to wander and your concentration will be so deep that you will not be able to hear a shot should a gun be fired near you.

Having achieved this control, quietly enter meditation. It is in this silence that the Voice of the Spirit will speak to you. Your soul, when in meditation, reflects the heavens — a true reflection, not the false one which frequently comes when mental and emotional disturbances upset the psychic or feeling nature. The mind does not realize then that the reflection is distorted as the result of its own inner disturbance. Meditation wherein one is conscious of the inner Christ, and thereby makes contact with the highest realm, is a great aid in helping you to govern your emotions and adjust your thoughts — thus creating in

you a new body, a heavenly body created from the Christ within you.

Radiate from your heart peace and good will, a peace which in the midst of spiritual conflicts around you, can remain undisturbed — even as Jesus taught through the so-called miracle of stilling the tempest. The Sea of Galilee represents the psychic centers of the subtle body, storm-tossed by the tempest, the elements outside. The Master asleep in the boat (or in the heart of your being) rises and stills the storm, for He is peace. Do you not recall what He said to His disciples — "My peace I give unto you"?

Peace is constructive, creative, for within the silence of peace (of the inner Christ) sound the vibrant Holy Words of Power. Always remember that peace is dynamic, even as love and wisdom are. This peace which is Power is unattainable without stillness of mind and Soul.

Meditate upon the nature of *soul* and *spirit*. Gather together all illumined moments in your daily life for they will be most precious in this higher life in the Spirit Spheres to which you will one day be a newcomer. The seers and wise men of old, who had known both life and death, taught that the last thought in this life is the starting point of the life beyond death, and that death itself is the beginning of a long meditation when Soul returns to Spirit. Meditation is the linking with the highest aspects of yourself. You go forward into the Light, and when you follow that Path you will enter a realm which is far more beautiful than anything you can imagine on your Earth plane.

Life flows on its appointed way and nothing can alter your own final destiny. Flow in harmony with the *whole* of Life and it will carry you forward painlessly to fulfillment. Remember, life and feeling are too swift as runners for you to run alongside of them unless you have a guide and pacemaker, Intuition, which is as swift as any.

As you now know, the Brotherhood places great emphasis on meditation. Daily meditation is necessary to

each Soul in its progress in evolution. On the lost continent of Atlantis, on Lemuria and on Mu, and also in the olden times upon this continent, meditation was practiced every day at the early starting of the day's duties. In those days it was understood much better than now, and was taken just as any physical exercise might be taken — the daily walk, the daily exercise of the human body which the Soul uses as its instrument. Meditation in those days was an essential daily exercise. That is lost now. The strife, the struggle for existence, all which has to do with what you call "making a living," has blocked the way for that spiritual exercise of meditation. And yet it is so necessary, especially today.

As you meditate, enter into your inner self — your innermost self — and listen for the words of God — "Be still and know that I AM GOD." It is only through such daily meditation that you can contact that innermost self. Beloved ones, may I again make the suggestion that you utilize some time in the early morning — before you arise if you have no other time during the day — to enter that state of meditation. Then when you come out of that time of quietness and peace remember that the first thoughts of that day after the meditation are the voice of *intuition* — that inner voice which tells you what to do and what is right. Base your first remark of the day, or your first act, upon that inner voice which speaks. Soon the outer mind, with all its turmoil and thoughts, comes to surround you and obliterate entirely the remembrance of the inner voice of intuition. Therefore, beloved ones, take note of what that inner voice says when it speaks immediately following your meditation.

Before you enter the state called meditation ask God to show you what you need to know. Pray to God that He will lead you aright during your time of meditation. Place life's problems and life's burdens upon His Altar, and during that time of quiet and inner peace the Inner Voice will speak — voice of the Divine within. You will note that a period of meditation will bring greater har-

mony and rhythm into your daily life. Harmony is so necessary, beloved ones, for disharmony brings diseases — dis-ease — un-ease. It is only by keeping inner harmony and rhythm that the body can be kept well. Disharmony will bring disease for it will clog the bloodstream and bring all sorts of ills, which no doctor can cure. *Only harmony can keep the body healthy and strong.*

The harmonizing rhythm of Mother Earth is forgotten in these days of strife and turmoil. May I make a suggestion? When you make direct contact with Mother Earth by standing without shoes or stockings on the ground, the health-giving essences rise from the earth, permeating the body and bringing renewed harmony. We sometimes forget that the substances of our bodies all come from Mother Earth, and when climatic conditions allow, it is very necessary to get the magnetism from her. This magnetism will restore in a wonderful way the energy which is lost, I might say on life's battlefield.

Follow your meditation with prayer. Prayer is like incense which rises to the Throne of God. Prayers are the stepping-stones up to that Throne.

In your prayers, beloved ones, remember to pray not only for yourselves but for the heads of all the countries at war. One nation is no worse than another; every nation has its faults. Every nation should sweep its threshold clean, and then it is in a condition to change. No nation, no people can change another; the change must come from within the nation itself. We can learn a lesson from each nation, however, and take it to ourselves. We do not criticize, we do not condemn — and we ask you not to criticize or to condemn anyone, no matter how bad you may be told they are. Only brotherhood is necessary, and love towards one another. Harmony in one's daily life is necessary. If those at the head of affairs in all the nations had really understood what harmony was, what brotherhood was, what love was, there could be no wars

on the Earth plane. That, beloved ones, must be clear to you; therefore I say: pray for ALL nations.

In the Brotherhood Group in London, while they sit quietly in a large circle, hands linked in a chain, which gives immense power to all those assembled, the leader calls the name of each head of the nations in need of help. Each is mentioned by name three times, and taken to the Great White Throne above where understanding is asked for them.

When the Great Plan is fulfilled, when the "cold war" goes so far it can go no farther, then that Plan of God will call *Halt!* And then — no matter what human souls may think, no matter what the statesmen of the world may think — all that is not of God will have to halt. And then this preparation for defense and war will cease. We ask once more for your prayers that enlightenment may come on the Earth plane, so that love and brotherhood may reign everywhere.

In order to help those who are yet fairly new in the practice of meditation, I should like to suggest some subjects for use in stilling the mind and attaining inner quiet.

In all the great teachings of India there is the constant inquiry by the student, "Who am I?" It is also a subject given for meditation. The mind must thus center itself upon this question, pressing deeply inward in an effort to discover the elusive inhabitant of the body. If the concentration is complete and persisted in, and if the student is really sincere, then the mental current of self-questioning, and the attempt to find out what he really is, ultimately brings all of his thinking down to the single thought of the meaning and purpose of the personal existence.

"I" is the first thought brought forth by life's being, but it is also the last. As this final thought is held in the focus of attention, it suddenly disappears and the Higher Self takes its place, overwhelming both questioner and question in its Divine stillness. Throughout the whole

course of meditation the Divine Self within waits and watches, biding its time — for it is timeless.

Your intellect, beloved, can trace out and find your Divine Self following the trail of the sense of "I" to its source. This teaching is sound, though practically unknown in the West. It traces the intellect back to its true beginning and reveals the nature of the personal ego. It also restores the balance of Man's trinity — body, mind and spirit. It replaces consciousness upon its rightful throne, deep within the heart, and dethrones the human brain — which is without right there. It makes it possible for you all to understand today what has been brought back to you from words of great Spiritual Teachers of former ages, and it enables each Initiate to enter into his Inner Center — that place of absolute rest, wisdom, and silent harmony.

A daily effort to meditate along these lines, beloved, is worth while because it produces eventually the true knowledge of your Higher Self, which is always ready and waiting to give itself to you. No education will ever be a complete and true one which omits this essential preparation for living from day to day. None are too young or too old to practice it.

Meditate also upon the Cross, the Cross which is not death but which is Life. The Cross made upon your body daily is your protection from all the dark forces that would harm you. No evil force can harm the human body that carries upon it the mark of the Cross. Then, my dear ones, as you meditate upon the Cross, meditate also upon the eventual freedom of the Soul — the resurrection — and the Soul's ascension.

For another meditative thought, visualize a little ship with sails unfurled, sailing peacefully upon a sunlit sea. A gentle breeze scarcely causes a ripple, and above is the boundless blue of heaven. There are men in this ship and they are fishing, and in the bow lies a Man in deep slumber. Calmly the little ship proceeds on its way. Visualize this scene in all its beauty and peace. Then

suddenly, without warning, a storm springs up. Clouds obscure the blue above, the waves become tipped with foam, and the wind rises and lashes against the little ship, causing it to rock and shudder in distress. Still the slumbering Man sleeps on, oblivious to all the turmoil around Him. The other men become distressed, frightened. "Why does He sleep when we are in danger?" they ask one another. They then seek to waken Him. "Master," they cry, "we perish! How canst Thou sleep thus? Awake, we pray Thee, and help us!" The sleeping Man opens His eyes and, seeing their terror, He rises and rebukes the wind and the waves, bidding them, "Peace — be still," and immediately there is calmness all around. Then the Master turns to the fishermen and looks at them sorrowfully, saying, "Oh, ye of little faith, why are ye so fearful?" — and they wonder at these words.

I have suggested this subject for meditation because it is the story in symbols of Man's present way of life on Earth. Visualize this symbolic scene and the lessons it will bring to your hearts. In spite of sudden turmoils and strife around you, in spite of apparent danger, keep your faith through the dark days. God is ever at the helm. Therefore, when the storms come and the winds rise, and there seems no rest anywhere, your little ship seems engulfed and likely to sink, remember to keep your faith undimmed, keep Love in your hearts and maintain peace of mind and soul; for with such armor you will always be equipped to calm any tempest attempting to arise within you or without.

At another time you may wish to vary your meditation subject. Visualize a peaceful land in the higher planes, carpeted with green pastures. Beside the still pastures are the softly running waters of a rippling, lovely stream. See how the waters glimmer in the sunlight! The pastures are very green, greener than on the Earth plane. Now visualize the animal friends that are there, gamboling about playfully. Remember in your Scriptures how it speaks about the lion and the lamb lying down side by

side? Everything here is harmonious. There is no strife. It is peaceful. You can hear the musical, melodious laughter of the children as they play here. You can hear the songs of the birds and you can hear — if you listen carefully — music, beautiful music, the "harmony of the spheres". Visualize this scene. Breathe in the perfume of many flowers which rises to the Great White Throne above — and in this beautiful place rest awhile — and meditate. Before you leave this heavenly place, visualize the form of the Master Jesus clothed in Light as He stands there with His arms outstretched, pouring forth His blessings to all humanity. Feel that special ray of warmth and Love that comes to you. Visualize that, my beloved ones and let that vision bless you.

I give you another meditation. Prepare yourself by the gentle, conscious breathing; then I would like to bring to your imagination, so that you may realize that it is really there, a rose — an open rose — a larger rose than you are accustomed to see. Upon the petals of that rose the sunlight is shining, yet the petals are still wet with dew. The perfume of that rose is embodied in the incense which rises before the Altar of God. Beloved ones, that rose exists for you when you have raised yourself to a higher plane of consciousness. There you will see those beautiful forms of flowers — the rose, or the sacred lotus blossom of India. There you can smell and touch and feel their loveliness. All of your physical senses have their counterpart in the spiritual in the touch and in the sense of smell, and those who *believe* can see these beautiful forms composed of thought.

You may ask "Whose thought?" and I would answer: You all have formed thought substance which is taken and woven into these forms, these pure forms that may live for a time or may live for eternity in the higher realms of consciousness. Think on this, beloved ones. Meditate on this and the truth of what I say will come to you, and you will be able to smell the fragrance of that flower and receive help and inspiration from the heavenly

substance of which the flower is made. Then meditate on the Creator of all this beauty and loveliness.

The rose is the symbol of love. It is the symbol of the Heart of Creation — that heart so often depicted on the cross — the Heart of Love, the Rose of Life, which will bloom upon the cross of humanity when humanity has evolved sufficiently to recognize that it has become reborn and regenerated into the Christ-man. The rose will then be symbolic of the Christ Mind in the heart where it sounds forth the Words of Creation: LOVE, WISDOM, POWER. This is the end to which all those upon the earth plane are making their way on the path of evolution.

Let us remember too, before God, as part of our meditation practice, the great sorrow and sadness of mankind. And that we may fittingly pray to God, let us make quiet the fretful daily mind. Let us open our hearts to the Father-Mother-Son, to the Holy Trinity of Love, Wisdom, and Power.

*IN the Holy Name of Christ, by the Christ Light  
in the hearts of men, we call upon the great Angels  
of Christ — whose presence and power we feel —  
and attune ourselves to the prayers of all men of good  
will.*

*Being thus prepared and ready before God — with  
all the will of our minds, with all the deepest love  
of our hearts — WE SEND FORTH THE LIGHT.*

*We send it forth as a great Cross of Light, a Cross  
of Love, notwithstanding, overcoming all evil, triumph-  
ant over death.*

***BY ALL THE POWERS OF GOD, WE SEND  
FORTH THE LIGHT.***

This prayer should be used with intensity of desire to love and bless, and with understanding. Each phrase should be pondered and its full meaning assimilated, for

each phrase contains profound truth and bears spiritual power.

Now a meditative thought some of you may find "right" for you: Visualize high mountains with a tiny trickling streams converge with and flow into it. Something may be goes, growing larger as it gathers unto itself other deposits of water along the way, until it comes to the valley below. It flows on by natural law in spite of barriers, crags to negotiate, vast difficulties in its way. Other stream gradually flowing down one side, increasing as it encountered in the path which will cause the main stream to divide and for a time continue downward as separate smaller streams, but eventually there will occur a lasting blending.

Nothing ever really impedes the progress of this water along its divinely appointed way. It becomes a great river, along the banks of which great cities are built, and upon whose bosom ships travel and rest. It flows on and on until it becomes one with the ocean. Visualize all this to yourselves and meditate on how like that stream is to the human lives on the Earth. Each life starts in reincarnation as a babe, progresses through duly appointed, merited lessons of experience. It makes other contacts as it goes through life — some which add to its goodness, some which appear to detract, but all contributing to the experiences which are necessary to build the final state, the Whole.

And now, for a final suggestion, I would have you meditate upon this Truth: Every vibration of all God's Creation travels in an arc — goes forth from its source on a mathematically precise curve which returns it to the core of its originator. You, who are spiritual ideas (therefore vibrations) of Our Father, go forth in a circle — the first half of your journey necessarily moving *away* from the Source, and the second half *returning* to the Source.

And, in imitation of God, every man creates ideas, broadcasts thoughts which must go forth on curved vibra-

tory paths and return to him. This action in the physical you sometimes call "boomeranging." Furthermore, thoughts have the power to attract their likenesses. So, when, for instance, you broadcast a thought of antagonism it will touch all who are likewise feeling antagonistic, thereby increasing their negative burden and, at the same time, carrying away part of their higher vibratory state and thus increasing the antagonism which will return to you.

So, my brethren, learn to live within the Law. Think only from *the Christ Center of Love within you* for the sake of all creation, as well as for your own receiving of the returned blessings of Love. This is Man's obligation, his debt to all humanity — to his fellowman, to himself, and to God. It is the debt for which one eventually asks forgiveness when broadcasting less than pure Love.

I wish to point out that these are only suggestions, not rules; that once you have made your beginning upon the way of prayerful meditation — and later, in the silence — you will each receive inner guidance, intuitive suggestions as to subject, time and place which will be exactly right for you. Each day you will come to know the right way for that day.

The teaching in each Lodge of the Brotherhood is that meditation is NOT for the purpose of seeking for psychic power. These powers may be purposely withheld because of the Soul's karma in a past life, and may cause dangerous consequences to the Soul if psychic powers are forced into being before the Soul has received spiritual illumination.

In your meditation, my brethren, if it is deep, sincere, and preceded by prayer, you are able to contact the minds of others at a great or small distance. You can pick up or tune-in to their mental atmosphere or their vibrations, and in this way you can help them. As you progress in meditation you may feel you are floating in space, and there will arise an increased peace and a power of complete detachment from all outside influences and

desires; you will draw nearer to your Higher Self, and finally enter that Shrine "not made with hands" in the Heaven-world.

Meditation, my brethren, must be faithfully and regularly pursued. It may take years, or even a lifetime to reach your inner goal, but through your longing to find God and to make direct contact with the Beloved Son, your Soul expands and grows.

In meditation you seek to draw near to the Christ Spirit, which is Life — Universal Life. When the Soul becomes conscious of its Creator it no longer seeks development for itself; rather does it seek self-abasement, purity, tenderness, tolerance, and gives gratitude and devotion to God the Creator, the Perfect One.

As you progress in meditation you may use certain exercises and some of the postures taught by the yogis, but this is not necessary for everyone and is more suitable for those of the Orient. If you practice LOVE in your life, giving kindness and service to all creatures, you will develop spiritual understanding, you will grow stronger in mentality, and more vital physically, as well.

Then will come the time when you attain Mastership, which is a full awareness on all planes of life. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for those who love Him." Nor can you realize, my beloved, the vast unseen life beyond this sphere of matter. It is only in meditation through the Higher Self that you can make a link with these wondrous spheres and meet those Elder Brothers who, ages ago, traversed the same path as that which now is yours and who will lovingly help your Soul onto the upward path of tranquility and perfect peace to union with the Eternal.

Before this high goal can be reached, it is necessary to realize the *purpose* of meditation. Its first objective as you link in with the highest aspect of yourself is to know Love — God — the source of your being. Absolute selflessness is also necessary, and absolute purity, as *nothing*

*must glorify the personal self at any time.* Do not try to escape from your path, however hard and unpleasant it may be, but rather try to receive into your Soul greater light and peace and courage to tread that path to the end.

In your meditations visualize often the beloved Figure of Jesus. Realize His unity with the Earth, with the Spirit of Earth — the simple easeful joy of it — bringing peace amidst strife and turbulence. That gracious Figure moves nearly always against a background of lake, mountain or sea. When you are troubled, seek the solitude of Mother Earth, rest upon her breast, and peace and health will again be with you. Breathe in the Breath of God by living in harmony, loving wisely and thus living in tune with the Infinite. And remember, my brethren, that your prayers for your Earth and your brethren are needed *by us* each and every day. Your prayers open the way for our service to you.

Do not let *anything* interfere with your daily meditation, beloved brethren, because if you are pure in heart and give to your fellow creatures and your fellow pilgrims on life's highway you may at any time be suddenly uplifted in spirit and blessed with Divine Illumination as the union is made between yourself and the Universal Spirit.

This Creative Power, this mighty Presence, this blazing Light can and will banish and consume all inharmony, in personal life, and one day in national and international life when enough of our brethren have realized these great truths.

## XVI

### SACRED HIDDEN SHRINES

**T**HREE are sacred hidden Shrines on Earth helping in the preparation for His return. There is now a Holy Shrine in Glastonbury used by the Brotherhood discarnate where great ceremonials take place at certain times. There Masonic sacred rituals are given, and there the Master Jesus Himself is the Leader; and from His Body of Light great power and healing goes forth, not only throughout England but throughout the whole world.

This little land of Britain from which we send our message has a great destiny to fulfill in history. These Isles are very old — “The Isles of the West” — and on one small island, Iona, dwelt the Christian Initiate, Saint Columba. He had attained union with the Christ-life and was one of the Great White Brotherhood from the Highest Sphere. He reincarnated in human flesh to purify and purge these Islands from their fear and from domination by evil forces. He and his Group of White Brethren brought the White Light, the fire of Love, and the true secret of Creation to Britain. And now today with the rebuilding and rededicating of the Church of St. Columba in Iona a mighty power is generated and released which will flow into the hearts of those in these Islands. This power will affect the whole world and generations yet unborn as responsibilities toward all other nations will be recognized by those in authority. Then the power of Empire and the love of colonial possessions will become of secondary importance to the power of the Spirit and the Light, the pure white Light of Christ and the glory of the Father’s love and care of all His Creation. This, beloved, will need constant prayer.

At the Shrine of Love and Service in Southern California — which is another dedicated, blessed spot — we of the Great White Brotherhood who dedicated it, call upon all of our brethren who are linked with us to meet together at that Shrine in prayer and meditation, in spirit or in body, at times planned by the one in whose guardianship it rests until the Brotherhood themselves come to prepare it for the Master's return. This Shrine, although the newest one prepared by the Great White Brotherhood, is linked with all of the other Sacred Shrines of the Brotherhood on Planet Earth and with those in the Higher Spheres, because of the purpose it will one day serve.

A place for our work was necessary in America, which could be blessed and purified and prepared for the future when Jesus, our Lord, and the Master of our Lodge, returns with His Disciples to continue His unfinished work for the Children of Earth. There will be, and there are, other Lodges, my brethren, also blessed and purified and on sacred soil, made so by the selfless work done there, but the Shrine the Great White Brotherhood has inspired and built in Southern California, near the Pacific Ocean, is on virgin soil, with the sound of the sea perceptible, surrounded by hills, golden cliffs, tall and stately trees fragrant with healing essences, and a garden and flowers prepared by the Guardian of the Shrine and other faithful ones who serve there. It is a hidden Shrine, known as such only to those who are ready to know of it and its purpose. Blessed, indeed, will be each one who can dwell there and receive healing and peace. A great spiritual illumination will take place in the hearts of all those who are associated with that Shrine, for it will be a hallowed spot.

This Shrine is specially blessed for prayer, meditation and healing and for the preparation and sending forth of the *Angelus*, a monthly publication in which is given the teaching of the Brotherhood through our prepared

channel. The Shrine is a White Lodge, linked to the Great White Lodge on High.

The Great White Lodge on High is a Center of Power within a City of Light where Souls assemble who have gained spiritual knowledge. Beyond are the Greater Ones who watch over the physical and material needs of human souls, not only on this Earth, but on other spheres of existence in the vast planetary system. We members of the Great White Brotherhood who are working with the Brotherhood Lodges on Earth, receive from the Higher Ones this teaching and we relay it on to you — our dear human brethren who have love in your hearts — so that you can mount the ladder of true spiritual illumination to your heavenly Home on High.

I have been with the one through whom I give my teaching since she first drew breath on her return journey to Earth. She was conscious of my guidance, though, with her free will, has not always followed it, but her unusually keen intuition was recognized in her early years, and was definitely a preparation for her future work.

As I am one of the Higher Brotherhood it was my choice, inspired and accepted by God, my Father, to bring the teaching of the Great White Lodge in the Highest Sphere to this planet through *one* chosen Channel, whom we have named *Roselady*.

It is, in your time, more than two thousand years ago that I first knew Roselady as a priestess in the Temple at the time of the Pharaohs. I linked with her then, and that link has continued ever since through many incarnations. As she sees me now I sometimes wear the robe of the Egyptian. I have linked with her in lives of luxury and ease — which hindered the development of her soul. It has taken this present physical life, when times of sorrow and privation have been with her, to enable me to link with her more closely and complete her preparation as the channel for the Brotherhood teachings, which I have given to my brethren of Earth through her channelling for more than twenty of your Earth years.

Those who have received or are receiving the ANGELUS are receiving teachings directly from the Higher Brotherhood through me, Azrael. One day we shall be with you, my dear ones, and we shall speak with you in the flesh. That time is drawing very near and as we contact the Earth, and the Shrine and the beauties thereof, and the peace that dwells at the Shrine, we know that each one linked in love and service to the work of the Brotherhood yearns and longs for that fulfillment to take place.

I have been known to certain ones on Earth throughout the centuries, and I have also been portrayed in paintings on some occasions according to the artists' conception of me. I have also been spoken of as "The Angel of Immortality". I am, in reality, an Initiate of the Higher Lodge, the Masonic Lodge where the oldest teaching of all is given, and where the Grand Master is Jesus, the Lord Christ.

Although it has been claimed by others that I control and speak through them, it is not so. It cannot be possible, for when a Teacher from the Great White Lodge comes to contact those still in Earth life, he seeks a channel who has in a past life or lives been prepared for his special service. I knew Roselady in this way, and I have been with her in her present life cycle through childhood, girlhood, womanhood, and up to the present time. She has that innate purity, deep sympathy and love for all that is true and right which has enabled me to use her prepared gift of hearing and seeing, and to give our Message in this way to our beloved Earth brethren.

There are many groups; some are controlled by false prophets who call themselves "members of the White Lodge" but who are attached to much lower planes, and these eventually bring sorrow and disillusionment to those who follow and believe them. There are other Groups, good and sincere, deep students of the Laws which govern all God's Children, unselfish, loving, tolerant, and patient in all their contacts with their brethren.

These may certainly be in contact with the Great White Lodge in the Higher Realms. But neither these nor any other groups are part of the work which the Brotherhood are preparing in the hidden Shrine of which I speak in Southern California, unless they were started *from this hidden Shrine* of which I now tell you. For this Shrine is being prepared for a very special purpose, and only those who are a part of this purpose in their heart-centers would feel the true link and work in love and service, giving this service in preparation for His return.

When Roselady's period of service ends on Earth, I go back to the White Lodge on High, there to await the summons to return with my beloved Master to this Earth with His Disciples and the Initiates of all time to give again the Teachings of the New Age taught by John, the Beloved, in your New Testament, and taught also on higher and more evolved planets than this one on which you now dwell. When the Truth is revealed it will far surpass imagination, and you will know and work with your more evolved brethren in God, your Father's service.

When it became necessary to build the Brotherhood Shrine in that chosen place of great natural beauty in Southern California, where the land was blessed for this purpose, it was through Roselady's channelship that particulars were given to the one known to us as *Light-bearer* and appointed as Guardian of the Shrine by the Brotherhood, and to one other, known as *Harmony*. These three make an Earth triangle of power as is well known in esoteric teachings. Even though they are far apart physically, each serving in a different nation, yet in spirit they are united and in their sleep their souls meet, and they talk and work together *here* in the higher planes at that time with their Group of the Great White Brotherhood.

Without Roselady this work could not have started, as she was the only one prepared through whom I could give the Christ teaching in the way it is being given for this New Age of greater enlightenment.

The Shrine of the Brotherhood is a place of healing for body, mind and soul. All who come there are blessed and receive an inner quietude. Each Monday and Thursday night is set aside for Absent Healing ministrations; and at this time and often at the sunset hour a great healing power is sent out through the world by those who gather there — angels and men together. A specially powerful service is held each First Sunday of the month when many come to spend the day in the sacred precincts of the Shrine.

We would refer to the Brotherhood of the Himalayan Mountains where there is another sacred Shrine of the Brotherhood. Throughout the ages great Souls have labored to bring about spiritual understanding to the world of men. They were known as the White Brotherhood and were linked to an inner Brotherhood of the White Light in the mountains where knowledge of the ancient wisdom was given in the Mystery Schools established there. We have told you, my brethren, that the time has now come when certain of these great and wise Teachers will appear amongst men to inspire them with divine wisdom and love, and to seek to guide toward unity and brotherhood those leaders now in conflict, who have control of human destiny upon your Earth-plane.

These Teachers mostly work unknown and usually unseen. They mingle in daily life with ordinary mortals, and they seek to bring into manifestation Groups or Brotherhoods composed of men and women who desire to serve selflessly for the advancement of knowledge which is concerned with a higher standard of life for Man on this planet.

We would remind you that the greatest Teachers and Masters do not desire fame or power. They live lowly lives in humility and self-sacrifice, but their example and their influence is felt, bringing an ineffable peace to many weary souls though these may not recognize the source of this peace.

Ambition, the yearning for self-expression, and an overwhelming desire to succeed, lead to most of the ills of the Soul and *delay* its evolution. True humility and the power to be *still* brings a calmness based on spiritual strength, and an expansion of Soul which is true illumination and brings a recognition of the inner meaning behind all the events which happen in each individual life.



*We lift up our hearts to Thee, Giver of All, our Father.*

*In peace and in the quietness of the spirit may we meet together in prayer before Thine Altar, to bring union with Thee to those incarnate and discarnate alike who are dedicated to Thy service.*

*We know that not any Souls can enter into Eternal Life until filled with Christ Consciousness, because only thus can they be in control of their own lives which will then become more glowing and beautiful each day.*

*Where Thy Presence is, oh Father God, there is Thy Kingdom prepared for Thy Children who serve Thee in love, and who give of their BEST to all in need. And so are they blessed, for they have fulfilled the Law of Brotherhood. Amen.*

## XVII

### COMING OF THE WORLD TEACHER

#### “THE SECOND COMING”

We have many times spoken of the near advent of the World Teacher. Do not, beloved brethren, think of Him merely as an individual. While the light and the glory will manifest through Him, it will not be limited to His personality but will be working as does leaven in your bread, to stimulate the life of *each human soul* to a higher consciousness, and to even raise the vibrations of the Earth itself.

Remember, the World Teacher will not come *alone*. He will come with His Disciples, and with many great Souls who have worked with Him in the past. Many are working at the present time to make ready for the World Teacher, and are already being used by their Master to raise the vibrations of the Earth. Some of *you*, my brethren, may be numbered with these disciples. We do not say you are, or you are not. Disciples are used to help lighten the darkness to prepare the way for the greater advent, the more intense manifestation. You see, humanity has to be raised to a higher level before it can perceive spiritual truth. Disciples labor to bring their brethren out of the depths of matter, of materialism, so they will be ready to behold the Light that is now dawning.

We hear very often of the promised Return of Jesus spoken of by those who wonder how and in what guise He will come. Will He be clothed in a garment of flesh, or does it mean merely a spiritual regeneration of mankind? We reply: He will come in exactly the same form

and appearance as when He left the Earth nearly two thousand years ago in His body of Light, as the Disciples saw Him leave.

In spite of much unrest and threatened strife in certain places there are more hopeful signs of a peaceful solution of many controversial issues, and also of great efforts being made nationally and individually to make the necessary sacrifices in the political field to bring this into being. With more settled peaceful conditions, preparations for the Second Coming will be fulfilled; so always be prepared, my dear ones, to receive those who will come to "prepare the way," as *the Time draweth nigh.*

Jesus will return in the same guise, according to His promise, that He had *after* He had risen in His body of Light, and will then use a mortal body for His work on this planet — and also on other and higher planets; and we, the Great White Brotherhood, will come with Him as His Messengers. And then, beloved brethren, I shall dwell for a time with you, and shall, I know, have your cooperation.

Before the Master returns, this planet of yours will pass through grave and troubled times, the signs of which are already to be seen. According to prophecy, Armageddon has to be fought so that God's great human Family may, through sorrow and suffering, learn those lessons they have neglected in past lives — and still neglect in the present. Only an immediate turning to God and following His Laws in *all* degrees can avert this catastrophe. It is in your own hands, beloved, but the time is short, so **PREPARE NOW!**

Many of those Great Ones from the Christ Circle above are now working on and near the Earth, and their combined influence has turned issues seemingly fraught with grave danger into peaceful conclusions. We need your prayers and your faith to help us in our work, my dear ones, and your help also in preparing the way for us to

dwell among you when the Master returns, to share in your daily lives and in your work of love and service.

Great changes are beginning to manifest in the new Age of Aquarius. The "veil of the Temple" will be torn down and Man will see into the spiritual realms, into the Higher Life, because it is from the Higher Life the Teacher will come. There will, my brethren, be *one* great Teacher, but there also will be many disciples who will work with Him from the World of Spirit. We cannot tell *when* all this will come to pass, but we know it cannot be long delayed, so be always ready and prepared to be one of the disciples to work with the Master when He comes.

One of the most distressing features of the present time is the widespread crippling sense of impotence. Man is reluctant to act because he is convinced that no action on his part can be of any effect. He does not determine what happens but is himself determined by this lack of action. It is true that men have felt this in other ages. In the ancient world, for instance, they peopled the air with unseen spirits who ruled human life from the cradle to the grave, or they read in the stars the fortunes over which they felt they had no control.

We have told you heretofore that there will come a time when the loving, intelligent Spirits above — Angels and the Spirits of men and women made perfect — will come and will walk and talk with their brethren here upon the Earth plane for the veil is getting thinner all the time with the understanding that is coming to humanity. Those in the Prayer and Meditation Groups formed for the work of the Great White Lodge on Earth are helping us to bring this to pass by their prayers, by the service they render us when sitting in an atmosphere which has been prepared and impregnated with the beautiful influence from the Unseen Heavens. They will, in time, help us to bring this to pass with faithful service before the Altar of Love and Service — fragrant with fresh flowers, softly scented incense rising, and the symbolic

Eternal Light of Brotherhood in its red globe upon the Altar. The symbols of the Brotherhood — the Cross of Light in the Circle of Light, and the Six-pointed Christ Star — help to draw the Higher Power to these Lodges of the Great White Brotherhood on Earth.

In the past, when it was possible for me to personally speak to these Groups formed by the Guardian of the Shrine as part of her service to us, I would close each Group with the love of the Great White Brotherhood of the White Lodge on High — the Grand Master being the Master Jesus Himself. And I promised them that as their Souls opened to the Light each would in time see the emanations from the Body of Light of the Beloved Master, enabling each one to *know* that he or she is truly linked in service and love to the Great White Lodge on High.

We know it grows more and more difficult to keep harmony and serenity in your lives when so many adverse conditions arise from day to day. Disappointment clouds the horizon and faith is difficult to maintain; yet there are bright spots gleaming in the dark places. A spiritual awakening is coming to pass. Many of our beloved brethren are now climbing the hill toward the New Jerusalem, the Golden City, and kneeling at the foot of the Cross of Love and Sacrifice. Material conditions no longer paramount, a wider vision is being vouchsafed to many, and the time is now drawing very near when the Brotherhood of the Higher Realms will be among mankind, and they will be known and recognized by those prepared and dedicated ones who wear the white robes of purity, love and service.

In your earth-bodies you are one with this infinite Life in your heart center but not outwardly. Your earth-bodies grow old, and those you love pass away. As you read the Gospels, you will notice that the great Initiate Paul says: "We look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our corruptible body that it may be fashioned like His glorious body, according to the work-

ing whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself." The beloved Master after He had risen did not appear to His disciples in either an astral or an etheric body but in a body capable of eating food. He could be actually felt and yet His body could dissolve and disappear, and reappear through closed doors. You may ask: "How could this be?" Jesus was functioning in His *immortal* body and in this could so change His body's rate of vibration to function on any plane.

There will come a time when it will be possible for those highly evolved Souls who have led blameless and pure lives to be so raised in consciousness that they can appear and disappear at will. To some it is already possible, when they are working for peace and are suddenly needed in distant places, to use their spiritual influence in the realm of matter in order to turn friction into peace.

Great changes will take place in your world — and change brings progress. Your own work is to seek to overcome the forces of darkness and to bring forth by your example and by your own faith the light of Truth. In this way you will help true brotherhood to blossom forth among those of your own nation and eventually among all nations. Go forward in faith that, however much the visible world may mock at your aspirations and frustrate your efforts you do not lack support from the invisible world. To have faith is to trust that life has a meaning even when you cannot read what that meaning is, and to refuse homage to falsehood even when it seems all-powerful. Such a faith is the last line of defense which the Soul occupies when its outer works have been stormed and it can only hold on — since surrender cannot be contemplated. It is the will to live for the *years* against the *days*, for eternity against time. The Soul is braced by faith to endure and to persist, giving itself without reserve to what is the highest, in the unfaltering conviction that this will prove supreme in power.

In spite of your world conditions, there is a great spiritual awakening taking place, and mankind is beginning

to turn toward God. Especially is this so in youth centers, or wherever young people are gathered together for a spiritual purpose. You will see a radiance on their faces and you could almost say they have a spiritual aura. These are the Children of Light. There are only a few of them, but they are old Souls reincarnating in the bodies of youth, returning to this planet for the last time, to help in the regeneration of the new Age.

These Children of Light are here at this particular period for a special purpose. You will recognize them as the light within your own hearts links with the light which is in theirs. They will work quietly; there will be no stir around them. They will go their way and will use their influence, and it will be of such quality that no unkind thought, no unkind word, no cruel acts one toward another can take place where they are. You will recognize them when you meet them, and if they need your help in the work they are doing do not withhold it.

I would call your attention to some of the great changes that will take place on your Earth. You will be told of voices coming out of the ether. At first it may not be possible to understand what is said, but one day sentences will be formed, and then teaching may be given directly from the etheric world. Man will thus be in touch with this etheric world which interpenetrates your Earth. He will have learned how to raise his vibratory rate to a higher plane and be able consciously to hold communion with those who dwell there.

There will be colored lights seen in the heavens, different rays penetrating through the ether to this planet — and then men and angels will walk and talk together.

Watch, my brethren, for these signs, for these are the forerunners of the return of the Master Jesus to continue His ministry on your Earth.

I would tell you, my dear ones, that Jesus your Lord is actually on this Earth in physical form from time to time. But He is not recognized, as the time is not yet. His presence is felt by the initiated, but not anyone on

Earth has *seen* Him — though many claim to have done so. Who can count himself *worthy* to have done so? The humble in spirit, whose lives are spent in loving service to others, who shed forth harmony and serenity as they pass upon their way, will be the first to see their Lord before He again starts on His mission throughout the world. Then all will see Him as He promised before He physically left this earth two thousand years ago.

Beginning with the deliverance of Jerusalem this generation has been privileged to see all the signs indicating the approaching end of the Age mentioned by Jesus. He declared that when these things began to come to pass His disciples should look up, should lift their heads, realizing their redemption was drawing nigh. He also warned against careless living and indifference to the meaning of the things taking place, and concluded with an injunction and exhortation which should occupy the thoughts of all mankind at this present time — “Watch ye, therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape these things that come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

To the true disciple this exhortation has a most vital application, never in any Age more so than now, my brethren. It is necessary for each one to be ever on the alert, ever in expectation, ever ready. There is a great and compelling need for constant preparedness and a constant reminder of what the apostle said, “Let us not sleep as others do, but let us watch and be sober.”

Pray therefore for wisdom and understanding, and for the inspiration of God’s Holy Spirit, that you may understand the hidden things of the Law, so that you may comprehend the meaning of what is happening today and so be ready at any time for the coming of the King. At that time the Elect will be called to stand before the Son of Man.

What, beloved, does this mean? It means standing before the Absolutely Perfect One. It means standing face

to face with Absolute Righteousness, Absolute Truth, Absolute Purity. Will you be ready to face Him?

That time will be one of division. As surely as a magnet draws to itself the little bits of steel out of a handful of other matter with which they are mixed, so surely will He separate and draw to Himself those who are His Elect. You will, all alike, be bowed before Him, but there will be this great difference between you: In some of you, despite your sins and unworthiness, He will find that which will answer to Him by an invincible attraction. In others He will awaken only fear and terror, and His presence will open up the awful gulf between them and Himself. We repeat, "Watch ye, therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

We would like to remind you that Jesus declared that the end of the desolation and oppression of Jerusalem would coincide with the ending "of the times of the Gentiles," or as we would put it, the ending of an Age. You will remember that Jerusalem was in the possession of the Gentile people from the time Jesus spoke these words until it was delivered in 1917. That deliverance should have been a sign to all Christendom that the end of the "time of the Gentiles" was at hand. It should have been a trumpet call to all Christendom also to realize the advancement of God's purpose. This was ignored except by a very few and is the cause of the grave unrest now spreading through countries surrounding Jerusalem.

Before very long, my beloved Earth brethren, there will be one great Church formed throughout the world, and that Church will be known as *The Church of St. John, The Beloved* — the Church of true brotherhood. That Church will give forth the mystical interpretations of the Teachings of the great World Teacher. I am referring to the Teachings of the Master Jesus, for there has been none like Him. And when that comes, it is perhaps then that the new civilization, the New Age now

dawning, will come in full force. That will be the time when men and women will understand that they can hold communion with their loved ones on another plane, and can have communication with their brother man in any part of the world.

We have sought to prepare you for that which is now in the near future, and we would ask each one who reads our message to meditate deeply upon what has been given. Remember, particularly now, that you use all the experiences of your daily life to create your future, and these experiences, if constructive and for the good of those around you, will make you ready to be numbered among the Elect when He comes.

Meditate upon the Harmony of the Spheres, my beloved; the Master is playing the symphony — there is no discordant note, all is perfect rhythm. Live your daily lives in this way, my beloved brethren, and the inner centers of your being will open and peace will be your portion.

My brethren, God is within each of you and yet filling the Universe and all space beyond. His Power is in all life, and His Life is the essence of Light. The gentle spirit of Christ, the Son of God, is the God-light within the heart of each of you and of all mankind. It is this inner Light which guides the Soul forward on its path of spiritual evolution, so that it can fulfill its destiny upon the Earth, and eventually come to that condition of perfect peace and joy which was the purpose of its creation in the beginning of time.

May God bless, guide and guard you always!



*We pray, oh Father God, that Thy Children may seek within their hearts for the knowledge of Thy Presence and of Thy Love ever with them in all the conditions of life upon this Earth. And may they surrender themselves and all they have to Thy Wisdom and to Thy Guidance, and thus find a new world of beauty and peace which will bless them until the end of their journey here below.*

*We pray, Eternal Father, that our beloved Earth brethren may open their hearts to all that is good, true and beautiful, and that they may in prayer and meditation realize where these may be found.*

*May the coming of the Christ spirit in the heart of each one bring that happiness which is life's greatest gift, coming directly from Thee, oh Father, who created Man to be happy and to enjoy his daily life in all its fullness.*

*We pray, oh Great Spirit of Love, that our brethren may seek ever more fully to prepare the way for the Comforter, the Great World Teacher, who will shortly come among them once more.*

*We pray for peace, for understanding amongst all nations, which a universal Brotherhood amongst all the Children of a Universal Father can bring. Thus only can there be a true and lasting peace — Thy Peace, oh God! Amen.*

—AZRAEL

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